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"Is it fair that a young lady who dresses to attract, the queen bee attracting the drones, the queen bee that dresses to kill... cries foul because somebody finds her attractive?"

of referring him to the Bar Council.

Ms Bindel, who has referred it to the barristers' governing body, said: "This kind of attitude is responsible for the victim being made to take the blame. It is not women who should censor how they dress or where they go, but men who attack women who should be censured."

Leading criminal QCs condemned Mr Stanton's comments. Richard Ferguson, QC, described the remarks as "irrelevant and in poor taste".

The argument has succeeded in some cases. Last March a former naval petty officer, Anthony Burstow, was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm to a former colleague, against whom he had waged a three-year hate campaign...

The Home Office issued a consultation paper in July promising new criminal offences to cover stalking and harassment, which could be law by next spring.

The court heard that during Miss Southall's ordeal, Morris twice threatened her with a blade-edged wallpaper scraper. Once, he had approached her wearing a pair of Y-fronts over his trousers, blowing a whistle, and brandishing the implement as he screamed for my life.



Owen Bowcott and Sarah Boseley

FIVE IRA suspects were being interviewed by anti-terrorist branch officers last night as it emerged that Diarmuid O'Neill, the man shot dead by police in west London, had previous convictions connected to republican activities.

The 27-year-old, born and brought up in an Irish family who had moved to London, is understood to have been hit by six bullets during Monday's pre-dawn raid on a hostel in Hammersmith, west London.

O'Neill was educated at the London Oratory school in Knightsbridge, where Labour leader Tony Blair has sent his son. He worked as a cabinet-maker before joining the Bank of Ireland's branch in Shepherds Bush, west London, as a clerk.

In June 1988, he was convicted on three counts of defrauding his employers of £75,000. Sentenced to 12 months detention in a young offenders' institution, he eventually served five months. At his trial, it emerged that police suspected that £34,000 of the missing money had been channelled to the IRA through a bank account in Belfast.

One of those still being held is believed to be Diarmuid's brother Shane. According to several accounts, they had been living together in a house in Fulham, west London, which was also raided by police early on Monday. Another suspect being detained was a 21-year-old engineer from Northern Ireland, who had been working for British Airways at Gatwick.

Police were last night refusing to reveal whether any weapons had been recovered from the hostel where Diarmuid O'Neill died. Republican sources in Belfast alleged he had been shot as he answered the front door.

Brutal end, page 2

Mr Stanton told the jury of six men and six women: "Miss Southall dresses to make herself look, no doubt, as attractive as possible. She chooses to do that not only for her own satisfaction but because she likes the attention of others: men."

David Stanton (above), representing convicted rapist Clarence Morris

drones, the queen bee that dresses to kill... cries foul because somebody finds her attractive? Judge Butler took the unusual step of criticising the remarks in court. "May I publicly and entirely dissociate myself from your comments as to that which I believe ought never to sleep properly and often burst into tears for no apparent reason. Her social life was in tatters."

Mr Stanton told the jury of six men and six women: "Miss Southall dresses to make herself look, no doubt, as attractive as possible. She chooses to do that not only for her own satisfaction but because she likes the attention of others: men."

Mr Stanton, who likened Miss Southall to Pamela Anderson, whom he described as "a sexually active actress", suggested it was Morris's right to find her attractive. "Is it fair that a young lady who dresses to attract, the queen bee attracting the



"I feared for my life. I was petrified," Perry Southall (above) said of the attentions of Clarence Morris (left). Morris, a convicted rapist, never laid a finger on her, but was found guilty on two assault charges after 200 incidents of harassment



The Daily Mail calls him Britain's pornographer-in-chief. Seldom seen without a cigar, his support of the arts is legendary. Now he wants to buy Manchester United. Who is he? Page Three

Minister blows Tories apart over EMU

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent THE Tories plunged further into crisis over Europe yesterday, as John Major's attempts to maintain unity on the single currency were blown apart by a junior minister's criticism of the Chancellor for being "out of line".

In a further blow to the Prime Minister, senior Tories backed the Chancellor, endorsing his decision to abandon the agreed "neutrality" on the issue which so infuriated Mr Major earlier this week. The row blew up over the weekend when Mr Clarke said it would be "pathetic" if Britain waited for other countries to launch a single currency before deciding whether to join, and that it should be in the first tranche of entrants to be better placed for decision-making.

But the Foreign Office minister and Euro-sceptic Sir Nicholas Bonsor attacked Mr Clarke, saying his comments had highlighted Tory divisions on Europe, and that he was out of line on government policy. Downing Street quickly restated the Cabinet's official position, which is to keep its options open. "Many issues of importance to the UK remain to be resolved. These will affect the UK whether we are in a single currency or not and it is right that Britain should play its full role in the negotiations," they said.

Earlier, Sir Nicholas had stoked up the row when he told BBC Radio 4's World at One that the Chancellor's comments had undermined attempts to restore party unity. "I don't think it was helped by Kenneth Clarke's comments but I think the vast bulk of the Conservative Party both in Parliament and in the country agree with the Prime Minister that we should not go into a single European currency without putting it to the people first by way of... a referendum," he said.

"I think he will be out of line with the view of the vast majority of the party and I think it is out of line with what the Government policy has been." Mr Major made it clear earlier this week that he was furious with Mr Clarke for departing from the Cabinet line. But yesterday Sir Edward Heath declared Mr Clarke "an excellent Chancellor" and warned that he and his pro-European allies would fight the Eurosceptics "all the way". Sir Jim Lester MP accused the Eurosceptics of "a conspiracy" to oust Mr Clarke, while the former cabinet minister Sir Leon Brittan said he had managed "the most successful period in the British economy for a very, very long time".

As figures showed crime rising again, Home Secretary Michael Howard said the public had failed to appreciate earlier falls.

Germany is embroiled in debate over chemical castration after a child-abuser said he murdered a girl, aged seven.

The Government is drawing up fresh plans to privatise the country's air traffic control service ahead of the election.

Britain went back into the European football fray last night with the return matches in the UEFA Cup first round.

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Advertisement for The Guardian International & The Observer Travel Bag, featuring a photograph of the bag and promotional text.



Sketch

Come up and see me after the poll



Simon Hoggart

ON SUNDAY night, at the start of the Liberal Democrat conference in Brighton, a young party activist noticed a friend chatting up a girl in the bar.

The couple shortly disappeared and the young fellow, much the worse for drink, thought it would be amusing to go up to his friend's room in the Metropole Hotel.

All of which was most alarming for the actual occupants of the room, Paddy Ashdown and his wife Jane.

Anyhow, Mr Ashdown shouted "Go away, whoever the hell you are" or words to that effect, then called for security.

I hope that Mr Ashdown, on hearing the accusation, did not immediately reach for his trousers. But the startling interruption of his night's sleep (plus the fact that he was rehearsing into the small hours yesterday) might account for the somewhat lacklustre delivery of his conference speech yesterday afternoon.

It wasn't a bad speech, but it was an awfully long speech. At times, Mr Ashdown seemed less convinced by it than some of his audience.

There were crinkly-eyed schoolchildren, teachers and engineers. He helped push out a lifeboat with a group of crinkly-eyed lifeguards.

First night

Genocide gets trial by theatre

Michael Billington

The Handymen Minerva, Chichester

"STRONG stuff" said the lady behind me at the Minerva Theatre after Ronald Harwood's The Handymen.

Indeed it is. For, like Harwood's Taking Sides, it deals with big issues such as moral guilt, responsibility and retribution; and it is that ability to handle them that compensates for the play's flaws.

Taking Sides presented us with a famous conductor, Furtwängler, accused of complicity with the Nazis.

But Harwood is less concerned with the issues the case raises. It is the pursuit of old men, now British citizens, under the new War Crimes Act, a form of pointless retribution? Or does the morality of justice mean murder should never be condoned or forgotten?

My main quarrel is that Harwood makes Romka's chief apologists so unsympathetic it slightly skews the debate.

At the Minerva Chichester (01243-781312) until September 28, and then on tour

Party leader claims only Lib Dem influence can force key issues on to Blair's post-election agenda

Ashdown: time for Tories to go

Michael White Political Editor

PADDY Ashdown yesterday warned the British electorate that "truth will be a bystander" at the coming election because the Conservative campaign of Labour timidity unless the Liberal Democrats can force the real issues on to the agenda.

In a defiantly upbeat speech to the party conference in Brighton, the Liberal Democrat leader abandoned all pretence at even-handedness between the Tories — "They must go" — and Tony Blair's government-in-waiting.

Instead, he hammered home the theme that only a strong contingent of Lib Dem MPs would keep Labour to its promises and help turn Britain into "a more prosperous nation with a more generous heart."

Mr Ashdown singled out Europe, constitutional reform, public spending — where the "John Major Debt" cost every family £650 a year in interest payments alone — and environmental issues as ones where 35 or 40 Lib Dem, the leadership's informal target figure, could make a decisive difference in the new Parliament.

Where the Tories were concerned, his tone was harsh: towards Labour it was at worst condescending. "The Tories tell lies on tax, hoping to win again. Labour dodge the truth, hoping not to lose again," he said.

The Blairite U-turn on Scottish devolution had proved that "the great cause of reform is not safe in Labour's hands." The choice voters faced was between continuing sleaze under Mr Major and Labour good intentions which could "founder on muddle and weak commitments."

party activists during his hour-long address, Mr Ashdown likened Britain in the 90s to the ill-led country Churchill revitalised in 1940. The talents of its people, if properly used, were its greatest asset.

"This country is not the mean, selfish, uncompassionate nation the Tories have tried to make us these last 17 years. But the true spirit of our country will remain hidden if the only choice we are offered is the choice between fear and timidity."

Mr Ashdown lambasted Tory reliance on fear in what he predicted would be a negative campaign and said the only effective antidote was

hope. A generous sprinkling of Lib Dem pledges, from tax and welfare reform to an "educational renaissance", were dotted throughout the speech to buttress that claim.

Predictably Mr Ashdown contrasted his own party's unwavering commitment to Europe and a single currency if possible with the hesitations of his rivals.

Claiming that remaining outside could cost the average family £10 a week in higher interest rates, Mr Ashdown insisted that a single currency would be good for Europe.

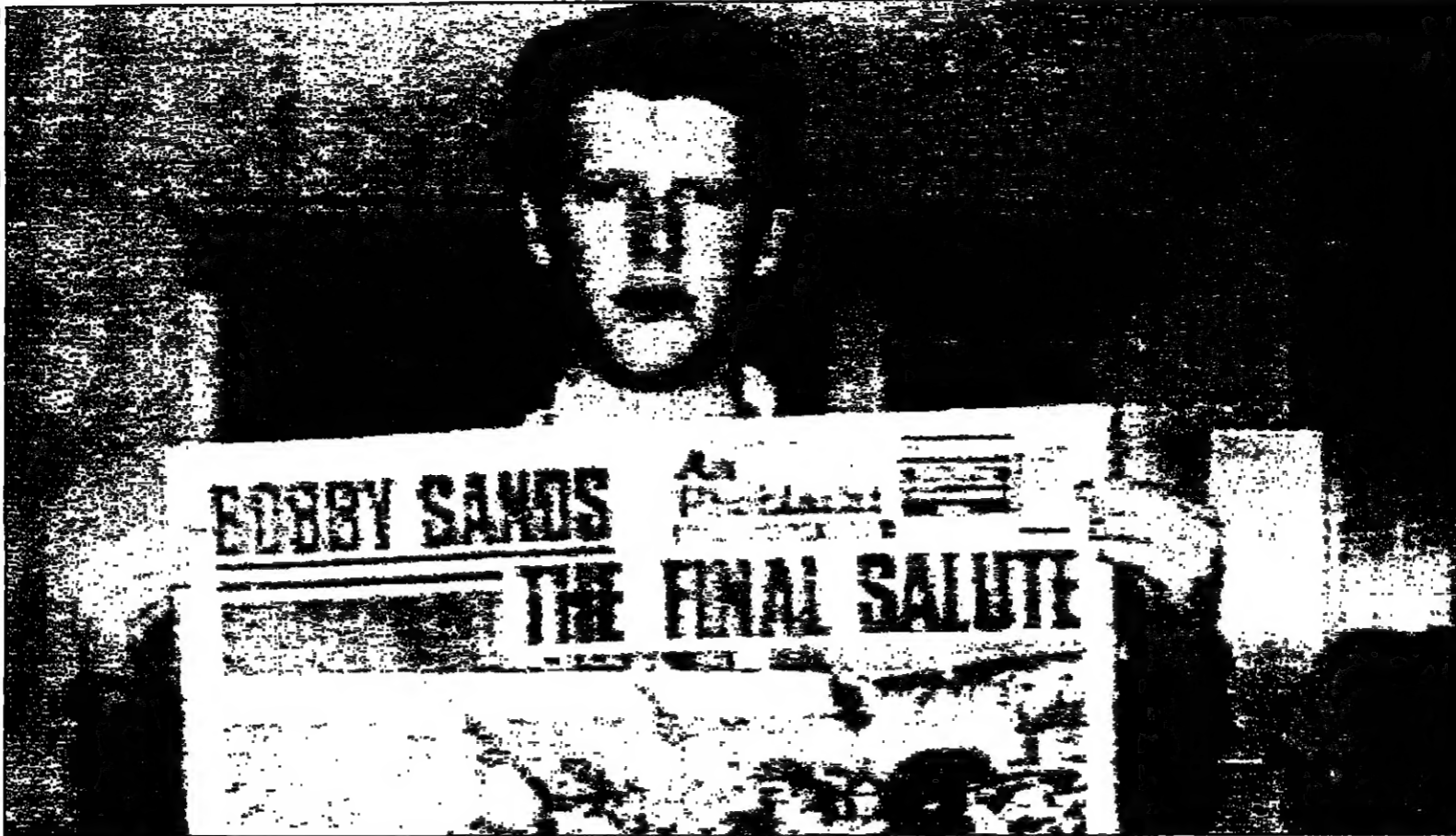
"And if it comes, and Britain can be a part of it, Britain should be a part of it."

But he made even more of the £150 billion addition to the national debt since Mr Major became prime minister in 1990 — "and he was trained as a bank manager," he quipped.

As Mr and Mrs Ashdown walked out of the hall, amid the usual conference razzamatazz, the applause lasted four minutes. Within minutes, the Tory chairman, Brian Mahoney, denounced the speech.

"His so-called patriotism would break up Britain and surrender to Brussels control over our defence and immigration policies," he said.

Leader comment, page 8



To compatriots in Cork Diarmuid O'Neill, seen here holding Republican News, was an easy-going expatriate who came for holidays

'Nobody around here ever associated anything like IRA activity with that family. They were very nice, quiet people, who fitted in very well with everyone around.'

Pat Joe O'Brien, a neighbour

Disgraced bank clerk who met a brutal end

David Sharrock reports on the amiable youth who kept his double life hidden from those who were closest to him

HE WAS a big fellow, always smiling, his red hair making him stand out in the busy summer bars of West Cork's Irish Riviera.

In Madden's bar in Timoleague on the Carbery Coast, they are used to seeing famous people rub shoulders with the locals.

Irish people with English accents are rarer, and ones who can afford their own holiday retreat are happy evidence that you can get on in the world and still never lose the love of your own country.

Diarmuid O'Neill believed he loved his country so much he was willing to die, or even kill, for it. None of the regulars at Madden's, or the Pink Elephant overlooking the magnificent Bay of Kinsale,

knew this. To them he was just another baggy-goofy visitor, forever in the company of his father, Eoghan, and his mother, Teresa, a feisty Dubliner known as Terry.

An IRA man? The news was met with shock by the people who live in these little villages of brightly painted cottages, where Marian shrines still display freshly cut flowers every day and the only trouble the police ever have to deal with is getting the pubs shut within licensed hours.

"They were not big drinkers. They came here most nights for the company and were good fun, very nice people," said publican Charlie Madden yesterday of the family group, which often included Diarmuid's brother, Shane.

Next to the O'Neills' pretty dormer cottage with its fine sea views lives Pat Joe O'Brien, a farmer who spoke with the dead man's parents a few hours before the news reached them on Monday.

Behind them they left disbelief among their friends. But Garda Special Branch knew a different "big fellow". According to police sources in Co Cork, Diarmuid had been suspected of being an IRA sympathiser or member for at least five years, when he was seen with local republicans.

In 1988 he was convicted of stealing £75,000 from the Bank of Ireland branch in Hammersmith, west London, where he had just begun work as a clerk. At

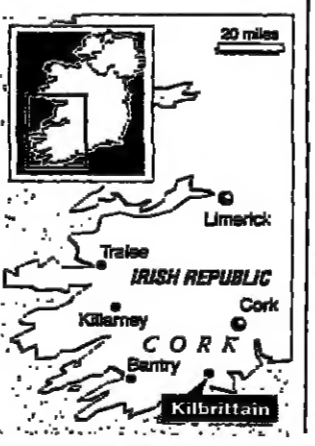
his trial it was claimed that £34,000 was channelled to the IRA via an account in Belfast. He served five months of a one-year sentence in a young offenders' institution.

It was an inauspicious start to adulthood after education at the exclusive RC Brompton Oratory School in Knightsbridge. After leaving prison he went on to earn a living as a cabinet-maker. On his frequent visits to Ireland he was not kept under close surveillance, but Gardai knew of his movements, according to a senior officer in Cork.

"Whether he was on IRA business during his visits or not is another question," he added.

It seems likely that he was a politically aware young man, conscious of his family's past. A great uncle, Donald O'Buachala was elected to the first Dail in January 1919, the year British rule crumbled and Sinn Fein swept to victory, taking almost every seat in the island save for the north-east, where Unionism stood firm.

He would have known the history of West Cork too, the heroic adventures of the IRA commander Tom Barry's Flying Column, 300



I will not step down, defiant Yeltsin warns rivals

David Hearst in Moscow

DOWN but not out, Boris Yeltsin yesterday launched a proxy political counter-offensive, warning rivals that he was still president of Russia and had no intention of resigning.

As he awaited the outcome of a meeting of Russia's top heart surgeons at the Central Clinical Hospital, the president, aged 65, issued a series of statements through his aides aimed at warding off baying predators.



Renat Akhurchin... softer line on delayed surgery Chernomyrdin, said after meeting Mr Yeltsin for 40

minutes: "He reacts painfully [to talk of resignation], does not accept it at all, and in general such a thing is out of the question now."

Then the Russian heart surgeon who had said Mr Yeltsin had suffered a heart attack in July and would not be fit for surgery for up to two months softened his line. Asked if cancellation of the operation was an option, Professor Renat Akhurchin said: "No."

The statements coincided with announcements from the Kremlin about the president's workload in hospital. According to the presidential press

secretary, Sergei Yastrzhembsky, Mr Yeltsin worked through a package of between 20 and 70 documents daily.

The statements appeared to lay the ground for announcing that Mr Yeltsin may be in hospital for some time.

The communist Speaker of the state Duma repeated calls for the president to resign. Gennady Seleznyov called on doctors to release full details of the president's condition.

material about "high officials" who siphoned money off to foreign bank accounts.

Gen Lebed has promised to help Gen Kozhakov by "giving" him his deputy's seat in Tula, vacant since Gen Lebed took up his post as secretary of the security council. Gen Kozhakov could offer the inexperienced former paratrooper invaluable information about his political foes.

Meanwhile, the United States cardiologist Michael DeBakey, aged 88, who is in Moscow for the meeting, refused to answer questions until he had seen Mr Yeltsin.

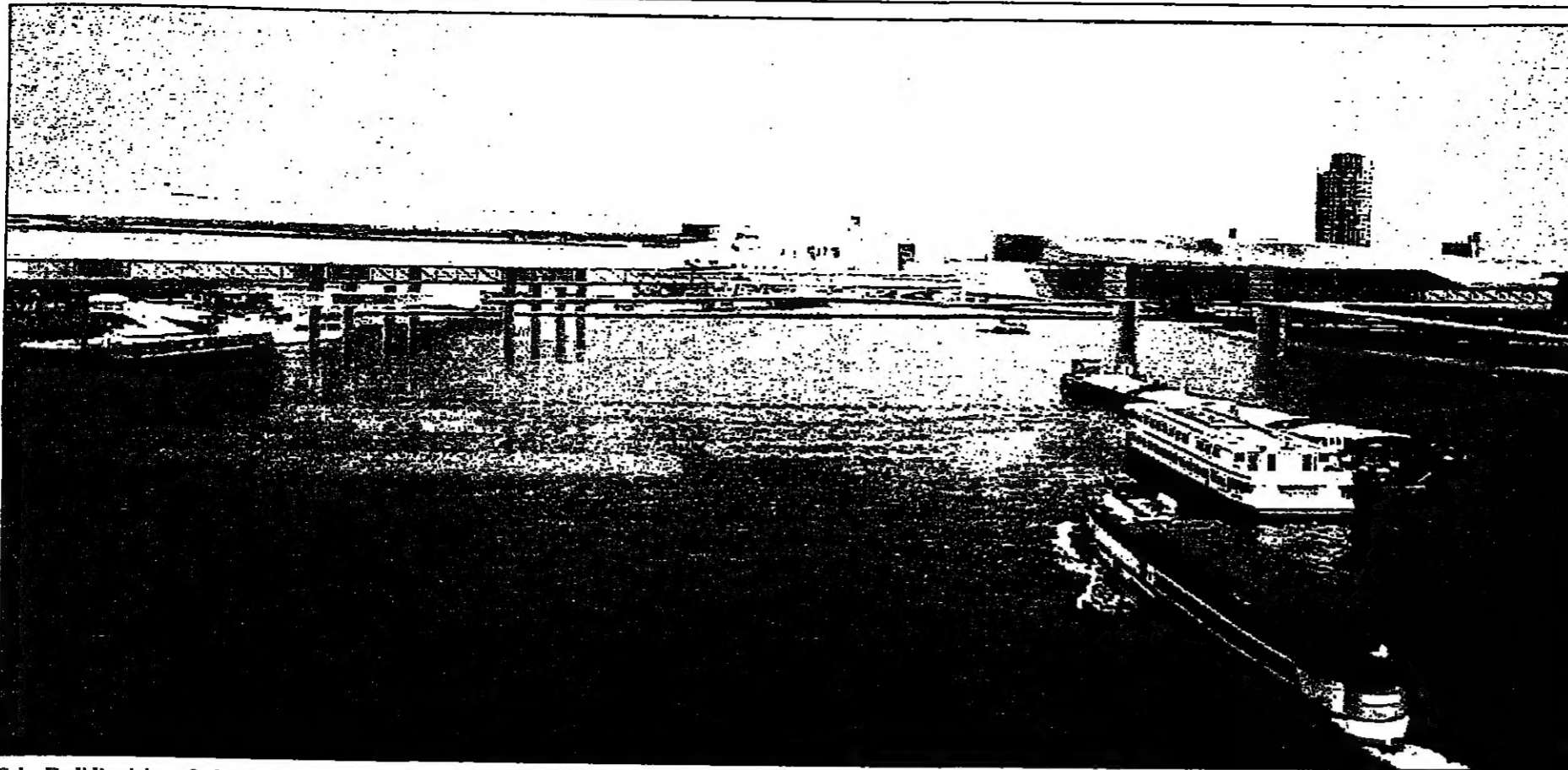
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مكثامن الترحيل





Zaha Hadid's vision of a bridge over the Thames, with blocks of accommodation at either end and a transparent central section

# A bridge too far for developers?

### Maev Kennedy on the double winners of an architectural contest to cross the Thames - and their uncertain prospects

**T**HE controversial British architect Zaha Hadid shrugged yesterday on learning that she had won yet another prestigious architectural competition, with a design which may never be built. "Who knows?" she said resignedly.

Ms Hadid, Iraqi born and London based, hit the headlines when she won an international competition to design a new opera house for Cardiff Bay, and hit them even bigger when the project was scuttled as non-viable by the Millennium Commission.

Yesterday her first ever bridge design was declared joint winner, with one by the French architect Antoine Grumbach, of a competition for a 270 million habitable bridge across the Thames in London, which has neither a definite site, funding nor a developer.

However, the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, has thrown his support behind the project, organised by the Royal Academy of Arts, and said yesterday he was confident a private developer will take up the challenge.

"This bridge will be a confident statement for the millennium, of this generation but in a great tradition," he said.

Mr Gummer said the judges found it impossible to choose between two utterly different but equally bold designs.

Mr Grumbach, who is working on several urban regeneration projects in France and won the French national award for excellence in urban design in 1986, designed a garden bridge including a tropical greenhouse leading to a glass tower of cafes, offices and flats.

In striking contrast, Ms Hadid's design is in cantilevered sections of glass, steel and concrete, with blocks of accommodation, high above cafes and offices at either end, thinning to a light transparent central section.

A feasibility study by consultants KPMG found the bridge commercially viable without public or lottery funding.

The competition was held to coincide with an exhibition on habitable bridges at the academy, organised in collaboration with the Pompidou Centre in Paris.

The exhibition, designed by Nigel Coates, opens tomorrow and runs until December. The exhibition includes models by all seven architects invited to compete, and the public will be invited to vote on their choice for a bridge to link Temple with the South Bank. It would be the first habitable bridge built in Britain since Pulteney Bridge in Bath in 1773.

The history of bridge competitions, as outlined in the exhibition, is not encouraging. In 1988 Cedric Price, working for the GLC, proposed to get rid of the smelly old river completely, and pave over the space between Waterloo and Westminster Bridges - thus creating, the design boasted, a new unchained public space eight times the size of Trafalgar Square.

In 1944, W. F. C. Holden proposed to replace the bomb-battered Tower Bridge with a shiny new glass box over twice the size - the City shuddered and repaired the Victorian iron instead.

If Ms Hadid's bridge is never built, she can take comfort from Gustave Eiffel. He designed a glorious bridge over the Seine for the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1878, but the project foundered. In 1889 there was another Paris exhibition. Eiffel came back with another design - and this time built his tower.

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The joint winning design, by Antoine Grumbach, described as a garden bridge including a tropical greenhouse

# Setting the avant-garde agenda

**Deyan Sudic**  
Architecture Correspondent

**Z**AHA Hadid is one of the few women architects to have established herself internationally in her own right, rather than under the shadow of a partner. But it is her work, rather than her gender, that has attracted worldwide attention.

Ms Hadid discovered the constructivist drawings of the revolutionary Soviet period when she was a student. They have inspired her very distinctive vision of architecture.

Her designs begin in the form of paintings - striking spatial explorations that initially gave some people the impression that she was concerned only with unbuildable fantasies. But her dynamic compositions translate powerfully into three dimensions as can be seen in the fire station she designed for the Vitra furniture company - now used as an adjunct to the Vitra furniture museum, in south Germany - and a block of flats in Berlin. For Vitra, Hadid produced a floating laboratory building a structure which refuses to be constrained by the conventional limits of orthogonal geometry.

Its roof and walls are an explosive collection of shards and fragments. In Berlin the most conspicuous characteristic of her design is a glinting, bird-like wall of steel erupting from the ground.

Influenced by the constructivists she may be, but Hadid is an original. A powerful presence, in trademark Issey Miyake, Hadid has been one of the small international group of architects that have set the agenda for the avant-garde over the last decade. Her emergence in the early 1980s as a significant talent seemed confirmed when she won the international competition in

## A career in deconstruction

**Born:** 1950 in Baghdad  
**Age:** 45  
**Nationality:** Iraqi  
**Based:** London  
**Education:** Went to school at a French convent in Baghdad, then in Europe and North America before taking A levels in England. Read maths at the American University in Beirut  
**1972:** Returned to London and trained at the Architectural Association  
**1982:** Winning entry for The Peak, a Hong Kong leisure complex, seen as breakthrough for "deconstructivist" architecture. Project cancelled. Small projects in



the 1980s including her first completed work, a restaurant interior in Sapporo 1981: Commissioned to build fire station in Germany. Innovative, but impractical  
**Sept 1984:** Won competition for Cardiff Bay Opera House with controversial glass necklace design, beating 268 rivals  
**January 1996:** Unprecedented second run-off. Hadid confirmed as winner, but project rejected by Millennium Commission in December  
**June 1996:** New competition for Cardiff announced. Hadid did not enter.

Hong Kong to build a landmark on the peak overlooking the island's harbour. She has since been in danger of becoming better known for what she has failed to build. The Hong Kong project came to nothing. So did a couple of large scale schemes in Germany.

Most notoriously, she fell foul of Cardiff's Tammany Hall politics when she won the Cardiff Bay Opera House Competition. Despite worldwide acclaim, and popular enthusiasm for Hadid's striking design, a small group within the bay vowed it would be built over their dead bodies, and crucified her. Hadid's design was rubbished and Norman Foster was offered the job behind her back.

Hints that she was not a qualified architect were dropped - she is not registered, though her office is entitled to practise. The last, and most insulting, blow was to replace her with a middle of the road local practice.

Hadid has maintained a dignified resilience throughout. London's inhabited bridge isn't going to be the design with which she makes the breakthrough. But her luck must change soon, if Britain is not to prove it is wedded to middle brow and mediocre architecture.

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## Grade's £300m bid for United fell foul of huge share price hike

**Roger Cowe**

**C**HANNEL 4's boss, Michael Grade, was behind an audacious attempt to take over Manchester United in the latest example of commercial business interests attempting to exploit the riches in sport coming from satellite television.

Mr Grade is chairman of video distribution company VCI, which revealed yesterday that it had discussions with the Manchester United board about buying the club for £300 million.

The takeover would have been the biggest in a series of deals which have seen business interests moving into sport as huge sums from satellite broadcasting have transformed top teams' finances.

Newcastle United are expected next year to float on the stock market, following competitors such as Chelsea and Tottenham. Leeds United was acquired recently for more than £20 million by Caspian, a publicly quoted media and leisure company, while Everton announced last week that it would raise £15 million

in a share issue. Manchester United's successes in recent years have produced enormous commercial gains, leaving the club clear at the top of the financial league and attracting the attention of companies such as VCI. Profits have risen from £5 million when the club floated on the stock market in 1991 to £20 million last year.

Manchester United's share price has followed suit, more than doubling in the past year to £4.50, valuing the club at £280 million. But that rise was too much for VCI.

This summer's lucrative deal between the Premier League and BSkyB pushed the club's price beyond the reach of VCI, which distributes videos such as Thomas the Tank Engine and Mr Bean.

Earlier this year, VCI bought the rights to publish books and videos for Manchester United.

Mr Grade became chairman of VCI early last year, choosing the company as one of the two non-executive appointments he is allowed under his Channel 4 contract.

City Notebook, page 11

## 90 jobs to go at World Service

**Andrew Cull**  
Media Correspondent

**N**INETY jobs are to be axed at the crisis-torn BBC World Service in a £8.5 million economy drive, it was announced yesterday.

The cuts coincided with a warning from its managing director, Sam Younger, that foreign language services would have to close next year unless the Government makes up a £5 million funding shortfall in November's Budget.

The economies represent 5 per cent of the service's £135.6 million operating budget, provided as grant-in-aid from the Foreign Office.

Mr Younger said: "Recognising the tight situation for funding across the whole public sector, we have done everything we can to cut costs while protecting services for listeners."

Now he hoped the Government would acknowledge what had been achieved and look again at its planning figures for next year's grant-in-aid.

The most vulnerable foreign language services include sub-Saharan Africa, central Europe and Brazil.

The service's funding crisis is separate from the divisive row over director general John Birt's plans to merge its news and English language departments with the BBC's domestic radio and television.

A joint BBC/Foreign Office working party is to report early next month on the impact of the restructuring.

But Mr Younger said that any economies from the merger would have little impact in 1997-98 on the £5 million funding gap.

Mr Younger and senior World Service managers have discussed the grant-in-aid shortfall with Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and are lobbying MPs.

Yesterday's cuts involve new working methods. In sub-Saharan Africa, French programming will be cut by an hour a day, and a 30-minute daily Portuguese transmission will cease. Schedules for English language transmissions around the world will be streamlined into three separate time zones, instead of the present five.

Broadcasts to Europe will be reduced, particularly in Czech, and regional production offices in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will close.

# DEAR MR TAXMAN

THE INLAND REVENUE ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT SELF ASSESSMENT

## I FEEL LEFT OUT

**Dear Taxman** I feel neglected, all my friends get tax returns to fill in but you have never sent me one. As I am now 32 years old is there something wrong with me? Ignored, COVENTRY.

**TAXMAN SAYS** Age has nothing to do with whether you get a tax return or not. We will send you a tax return if you are self-employed, a company director, or someone with more complex tax affairs. Most people don't get a tax return so you're certainly not alone. However, if you receive income that has not been taxed and you haven't been sent a tax return you must tell us. Call your Tax Office and talk to someone there if you are still worried. The telephone number is in the phone book under 'Inland Revenue'.

## DO I NEED AN ACCOUNTANT?

**Dear Taxman** To date, I keep proper records, the new system should make things easier. You may even find time for a more exciting hobby like collecting cheese labels.

**AM I UP-TO-DATE?** Will I now be forced to use an accountant and give up one of my few interests in life? Bored, DYFED.

**TAXMAN SAYS** Not if you don't wish to. If you already deal with tax affairs yourself there is no reason to change. In fact, if you are organised and

## NO MORE TAX

**Dear Taxman** Is Self Assessment just a cunning way of wheedling more tax out of me? Paranoid, BARNES.

**TAXMAN SAYS** No. Self Assessment is not a new tax and does not affect the amount of tax you pay. It is just a clearer and more straightforward system for working out and paying tax.

## How big is it?

**Dear Taxman** How big is the new Self Assessment tax form? I have a bad back and the doctor says I can't do any heavy lifting. Worried, BRADFORD.

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Howard 'extremely concerned' as figures show first increase in three years • Rapes and robberies up, burglaries and thefts down

# Violent crime soars by 10 per cent

'I wish the public had a keener appreciation of what we believe is actually happening. It is not unusual for the public perception to lag somewhat behind what is actually happening'

- Michael Howard

Alan Travis on twin blow for Tories



Michael Howard said the public failed to appreciate crime figures had been through their largest sustained fall for 40 years PHOTOGRAPH BY GARRY WEASER

**M**ICHAEL Howard yesterday banished all talk of "turning the tide" against criminals as the annual figures showed the crime rate rising for the first time in three years, including a 10 per cent jump in violent crime.

The confirmation that the three-year decline in the crime rate had been halted instead prompted the Home Secretary to accuse the public of failing to appreciate that the recorded crime figures had

just been through their largest sustained fall for 40 years. The Government's efforts to re-establish its law and order credentials also received a knock with the publication yesterday of the 1996 biennial British Crime Survey, based on interviews with 16,000 adults.

It showed that crime has continued to rise in the past two years, albeit by only 2 per cent. Only 4 per cent of the public believed that the official crime rate had really fallen by 10 per cent in the past three years. Instead the

survey showed that three-quarters believed it had continued to rise substantially. "I wish that the public had a keener appreciation of what we believe is actually happening. It is not unusual for the public perception to lag somewhat behind what is actually happening," said Mr Howard.

The annual figures show there were 5.1 million crimes recorded by the police in the 12 months to June 1996, an increase of 0.4 per cent. Although violent crime only accounts for 6 per cent of offences, Mr Howard said he

was "extremely concerned" the category had suffered its largest increase for eight years, to 331,000 offences. But the Home Secretary took comfort in continuing minor falls in burglary (1 per cent), theft (2 per cent) and car crime (1 per cent). "My concern is the long-term picture. Both the bulletins published today provide encouraging evidence on the trends in crime.

"I make no bones that the rise in violent crime is a matter of concern. If you look at the fastest growing parts of

the rise in violent crime, particularly domestic violence and sexual crimes, then that has something to do with the rise in reporting. Rapes rose by 14 per cent and robberies by 15 per cent, largely accounted for by an increase in street muggings. The largest rises in crime were in Greater Cambridgeshire, Merseyside, and Sussex, Durham, Cheshire, and Gloucestershire had the largest falls.

The rise in violent crime with a continuing small fall in property offences confirms Home Office research that, as the economy improves and personal disposable income increases, there is a rise in violent attacks, particularly those which are alcohol-related.

The shadow home secretary, Jack Straw, said that in the past 12 months Tory ministers had dined out on modest falls in recorded crime yet the British Crime Survey had revealed that crime levels had continued to increase in the past two years.

"The Government has failed to tackle the underlying causes of crime and deal with criminal anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods. It is no wonder (Tory MP) David Mellor said Labour is outflanking the Government on law and order," he said. For the Liberals, Alex Carlisle said the Government had failed to stem rising crime and there were unprecedented levels of violent crime. Bill Taylor, chairman of the Association of Chief Police Officers, agreed that the upward trend was "a cause for concern".

## Survey reveals rise in violence

Alan Travis

**T**HE 1996 British Crime Survey published yesterday says crime rose by 2 per cent between 1993 and 1995 — the period when Michael Howard was having an 8 per cent fall in police figures as the largest for 40 years. The BCS, carried out every two years and based on interviews with 16,000 adults, estimates that there were 19.1 million crimes last year. The 2 per cent rise is, however, the smallest increase since its inception in 1981 and the results also mirror the pattern in the police records in the last two years, with both showing small falls in burglary and car crime and a rise in violent crime. The BCS, however, estimates there has been a 17 per cent rise in violent crime as against 10 per cent in the police figures in the last year. A BCS finding which will also alarm Tory politicians is the discovery that only 4 per cent of the public believe crime has fallen in the past two years. Three quarters feel it has increased. The BCS, regarded by criminologists as

more reliable than police figures, shows a growing amount of crime not being officially reported, with roughly four times as many crimes happening as are recorded by the police. Many crimes go unreported because victims do not feel they are serious enough. More comforting is the BCS finding that there has been a small decrease in people's fear of crime. The proportion of women who feel unsafe alone on the streets at night has dropped from 54 per cent in 1994 to 47 per cent now. Amongst other BCS findings are:   
□ More than one in 10 women and one in 20 men said they never went out after dark. A third of the women who stayed in cited fear of crime as the reason.   
□ The largest rise in violent crime has been in domestic attacks in the home, which have increased by 22 per cent since 1981. Acquaintance violence, by someone known to the victim, has doubled since 1981. Street muggings have increased at a slower rate (54 per cent) and stranger violence has shown the smallest rise (12 per cent) over the past 15 years.

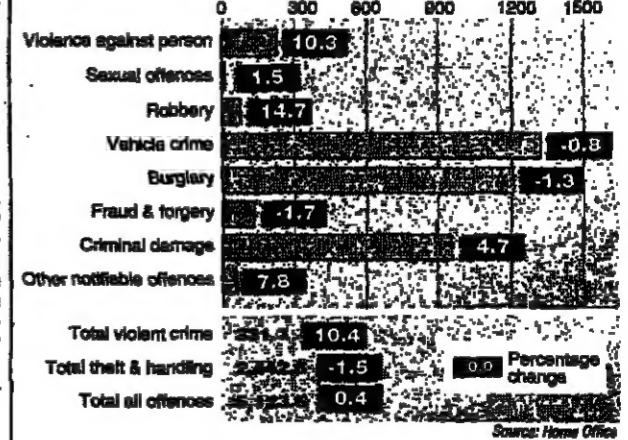
### More crime

England and Wales  
Violent crime  
Percentage increase in violence from 1981-1995

Domestic	24.2
Acquaintance	12.3
Mugging	5.4
Stranger	1.2

### Notifiable offences

Number of offences (thousands) recorded by the police July 1995-July 1996



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## Senior police back gun ban

Alan Travis

**S**ENIOR police officers yesterday rejected gun lobby overtures and unanimously voted to reform Britain's "liberal gun control laws". The decision came in the face of warnings to the Police Superintendents' Association annual conference that tougher restrictions on gun ownership would be seen as another power bid by police. Bill Harriman of the British Association for Shooting and Conservation told the officers that the public's idea of shooters being gun-toting madmen was wrong. "We are not all camouflageed loonies," he said. "We are normal men and women who like to do a bit of shooting. Private ownership of firearms is a cornerstone of any democracy," he said. But the superintendents appealed to the Home Secretary to get tough on gun crime. The debate means another

significant group in the criminal justice system has backed tighter gun controls as Lord Cullen finalises his report into the Dunblane massacre. The report is to be published on October 14 — after the party conference season. Superintendent Dai Davies, a Metropolitan police royal protection squad officer, told the Stratford-upon-Avon conference it was necessary to reduce the risk. "Imitation firearms must be banned now, as should the storage of handguns," he said. "Handguns must never be stored in people's homes." "In fairness, the Home Secretary does talk tough. He must ensure that his colleagues give him the power and finance to be tough. Recent tragic events should give us the incentive to get it right once and for all." Earlier, the shadow home secretary, Jack Straw, had pledged that Labour would not bow to pressure from the gun lobby and renewed his commitment to banning civilian ownership of handguns.

## Cuts a problem on Mersey beat

Peter Hetherington

**"T**HE last 12 months have hit us hard," says the young woman constable as she prepared for another round of evening meetings to calm a troubled community. "I would not have expected anything like this." Like the rest of Merseyside's fast-depleting police force, PC Karen Austin knows she could be fighting a losing battle against crime, up by six times the national average over the past year. Her colleague in the Wavertree and Riverside division of Liverpool, PC Lawrence Jeffries, recalled a week of morning shifts. "The amount of armed robberies took me by surprise — every morning, one after the other, with shootings as well." With a steadily reducing budget for the Merseyside force, the two community liaison officers often give up their free time, working 12 hours shifts.

Along with the council, church and other agencies, they organise activities for children, aged eight to 14, for three nights every week. "We have to teach them the difference between right and wrong before it's too late." With streets selected on a rota basis, they know they are only skimming the problems in a police division of 800 people, characterised by high unemployment and a range of social ills. Rising crime — including a 46 per cent increase in armed robberies over the past year — would be hard enough. But it is combined with deep cuts in the police budget. Merseyside is preparing to shed another 150 officers, on top of 300 lost last year. Chief constable Jim Sharpley said resources were being lost at a time when demands have never been greater. "There is a very, very considerable increase in our workload in those very areas which are resource-intensive and require very sophisticated policing."

## Increase disappoints police chief

Gang ransacks home in £40,000 raid while couple seek new house

Martin Wainwright

**A**HUNDRED and ninety-nine of West Yorkshire's daily average of 280 burglaries were diametrically routine this week, but the final break-in had Inspector Steven Hobson's eyes popping. As if to illustrate the downward slip of crime prevention statistics — with a 1.7 per cent rise in the county, four times the national rate — thieves took everything from a

young couple's home, except a king-size waterbed. Copper radiator pipes gaped from the skirting boards at Bronte Villas in Cross Roads, a quiet hamlet near Haworth. The kitchen has a hole where the Aga used to be, and rubble surrounds the sitting room fireplace. "The burglars must have been hungry with all that lifting," said Mr Hobson sardonically, listing the comprehensive stock of basic bits of house which Billy and Julie Brown no

longer have. "Every kitchen cupboard was taken, along with the fridge and the freezer, all of them full of food." They also removed the kitchen sink. When the Browns returned from house-hunting, they found nowhere to sit in the stone-clad home, valued at £250,000. All the furniture had gone in the £40,000 raid, plus most of the bathroom including a bidet and the radiators. The couple have moved temporarily to a caravan at Morecambe, after Mrs Brown found the wrecked house unbearable.

West Yorkshire's chief constable, Keith Hellawell, expressed disappointment with the county's rise in recorded crimes, up some 3,000 to 286,000 incidents last year. Assistant chief constable Norman Bettison said the figures should be set in the context of a longer-term fall in incidents. He added the force had been successful in the last three months in targeting criminals, using intelligence material in a drive against the relatively small number of hardened professionals. These are likely to include the experienced dismantlers who ransacked Bronte Villas in hours, apparently aware the Browns had gone out for the day.

Johnnie



Agriculture minister airlifted out by helicopter as 5,000 Irish protest at the impact on income of the beef crisis



Irish farmers protest outside Killarney's Hotel Europe against Britain's non-compliance with the EU cattle culling order

PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE BROWN

Farmers besiege Euro BSE meeting

Stephen Bates in Killarney

THOUSANDS of Irish livestock farmers facing financial crisis because of BSE yesterday besieged European agriculture ministers in their hotel at Killarney. More than 5,000 farmers, frustrated at being kept several hundred yards from the meeting of ministers discussing compensation payments, broke through a thin line of gardai to protest at the front door of the hotel. Shutters were run down over the windows of the room in which the ministers were meeting and Franz Fischer, the agriculture commissioner, was later airlifted out by helicopter. Ivan Yates, the embarrassed Irish agriculture minister, who chaired the meeting, was shouted down as he appealed to the farmers to allow guests to leave the hotel, but the largely good-humoured demonstration dispersed after police appeals.

The protest overshadowed the end of the meeting at which the ministers agreed to bring forward compensation for European farmers who have suffered because of the 20 per cent drop in consumer demand for beef in the wake of the BSE crisis. The British government's refusal to carry out the agreement reached at June's Florence summit to cull up to 140,000 cattle was not discussed, although Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, had a private meeting with Mr Fischer. Leaving the ministers' meeting, Mr Hogg said: "We have had a very useful discussion about how we can reduce beef production in line with demand." In a package which is likely to be endorsed by the European Commission at its weekly meeting in Brussels later today, the ministers agreed that £400 million will be paid to farmers across the EU by the middle of next month, drawn from money that was earmarked for next year's agriculture budget.

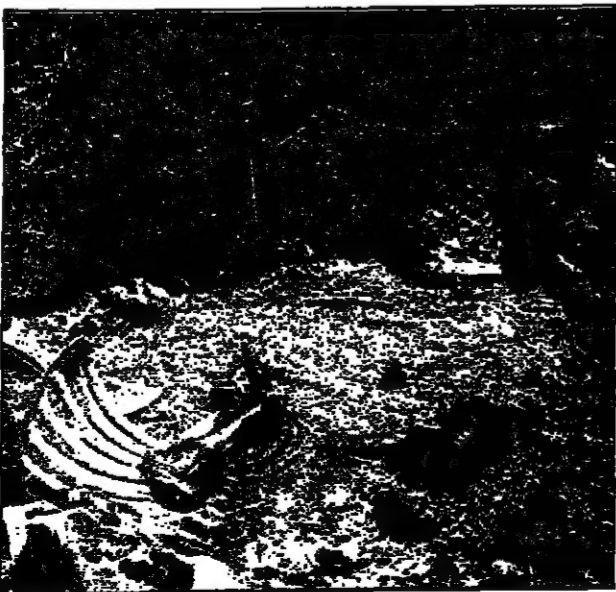
The commission today will discuss a plan to label all meat sold in the EU with farm of origin and a guarantee that it is BSE free. A final compensation package will be put to farm ministers in Luxembourg at the end of October. Mr Yates told a press conference: "Without the actions we have taken, the situation for farmers would be very much worse. It is a problem of consumer confidence and we are trying to restore that." Outside, farmers were singing, chanting and waving placards demanding action. For many farmers in Ireland up to half their income comes from the commission. The average size of farmers' herds is only 12 cattle and they have lost about £184 on the value of each animal since the BSE crisis broke in March. Michael Burkey, general secretary of the Irish Farmers' Association, said the demonstration showed how bitterly let down farmers felt. "We are angry and feel we are being sold down the Swanee."

BSE fears after carcass find at hunt's kennels

Stuart Millar

A DORSET hunt kennels is being investigated after the discovery of a field of rotting animal carcasses, some of which inspectors fear could have been infected with the BSE virus. Owners of the Ytene Mink Hunt kennels at Toller Porcum, near Dorchester, face prosecution and closure if they are found to have breached health regulations. Monitors from the League Against Cruel Sports, whose year-long surveillance of the site sparked the investigation, described it as a "scene from hell". Ron White, regional representative of LACS, spent a year photographing and videoing the kennels, which opened in 1977. He called yesterday for its closure and prosecution of the owner. "When I first went out there, the wind was blowing towards me, and I could smell it from about 500 yards away," he said. "It was like a scene from hell, and we believe it posed a serious health risk. "We observed a whole field covered with lumps of flesh and bone in various stages of decomposition. We saw the front half of a calf surrounded by flies and rats, with maggots coming out where the head should have been." Mr White also filmed a filthy, run-down wooden shack which was used as a rendering shed to prepare the meat. Outside, offal bins were left open and there was no evidence of banned offal having been dyed as required by the regulations. Bones and remains dragged away by foxes and other animals were discovered in hedgerows on a public nature trail next to the site. Hunt kennels come under the Animal By-Products Order, introduced in 1992 to prevent BSE-infected meat reaching humans, because

they have traditionally offered farmers a cheap collection service for injured or dead livestock. The raw flesh is fed to the hounds. Under the regulations, all plants handling specified bovine material have been monitored by the State Veterinary Service to ensure the removal of all tissue known potentially to harbour BSE infectivity. In September and October last year, inspectors visited 447 knackeries and hunt kennels - separate figures are not available - found almost half were not properly disposing of banned offal: the figure fell to less than 2 per cent by June. But the Ytene Hunt was not registered as a hunt kennel, and therefore had never been inspected since the regulations came into force. Dorset trading standards officers entered the site last week and reported the owner for failing to comply with the regulations, failing to keep collection records and not disposing of waste matter in an appropriate manner. Bill Jaggs, the deputy trading standards officer, said he could not comment on details of the investigation, which could take several weeks. A second inspection yesterday showed that the owners had taken steps to clean up the site, he said. Water quality inspectors from the Environment Agency were also called in over fears that waste matter could have washed into the River Hooke, which flows into the Frome. The River Frome flows through Dorchester. A spokesman confirmed that the kennels were the subject of an investigation. He said he was concerned that the lack of collection records may have allowed unscrupulous farmers to offload infected cattle without knowledge of the authorities. The owner, Rose Whitcombe, could not be reached for comment.



An investigator photographs the remains of cattle at the kennels in a field described as a 'scene from hell'

New Labour's image handlers should hastily acquire some of Macmillan's sangfroid. Instead, they seem hell-bent on Wilson-style confrontation. Francis Wheen

G2 page 5

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TIN1



# Dole must settle for silver in Golden State

US election 96

Even fellow Republicans admit: 'He's going to get slaughtered in California. He's going to get killed.' Jonathan Freedland reports from Los Angeles

It is one of the oldest rules in American politics: as California goes, so goes the nation. If the rule holds true in November, then Bob Dole might as well build his retirement home now. For President Clinton has all but locked up the Golden State, whose 54 votes make it the richest prize in America's electoral college. The latest Los Angeles Times poll has the president 17 points ahead of his Republican challenger. "He's got zero, zero, zero chance," said one Los Angeles Republican. "Dole's going to get slaughtered in California. He's going to get killed." It shouldn't be this way. Mr Dole has bought heavy TV advertising in California, he has visited repeatedly and he has a habit of electing Republicans, including the "favourite sons" Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan. In 1994 the Republican governor,

Pete Wilson, pronounced his Democratic opponent and dozens of Republicans took House seats in that year's anti-Clinton landslide. Yet now Bob Dole is struggling to avoid humiliation. The cause of his trouble is a combination of good timing and canny strategy by the White House and a series of

own goals by the Republicans. Mr Clinton has visited California 27 times since taking office, mounting a four-year permanent campaign for reelection in the state. He has showered it with largesse, in the best pork-barrel tradition of American politics. More than \$18.4 billion (\$11.8 billion) in federal disaster relief has compensated for the earthquakes, floods and fires that have blighted California since 1992. When Mr Clinton announced that he wanted every US high school connected to the Internet by the year 2000, he made an extra promise to Californians: they would be on line by the end of 1996. The president is benefiting from a countrywide economic recovery, but the surge in California is outpacing the rest. The state's economy lagged behind in the early 1990s, battered by post-cold war defence cuts. Now it is buoyed by growth in entertainment, tourism, exports and the hi-tech industries

concentrated in Silicon Valley. The president has rich friends in California, most of them in Hollywood. Earlier this month, Barbara Streisand, Tom Hanks and fellow celebs stumped up \$4.5 million for Mr Clinton in an evening. To cap it all, the president has seen a whole new constituency added to the electorate. Hispanic immigrants are suddenly rushing to become US citizens, automatically registering to vote as they do so. More than a million immigrants are expected to swear the oath of allegiance by Christmas, one third of them in California — and initial polls suggest up to 70 per cent of them are registering as Democrats. Their motive is fear: they worry their rights are under threat from Republican laws designed to curb illegal immigration. Chief among them is Proposition 187, passed in

California in 1994, which denies the children of illegals schooling and all but emergency healthcare. Mr Dole seems to be on the wrong side of every issue that matters. His statements questioning whether nicotine is harmful or addictive did not play well in health-conscious California. The Republican Congress's rollback of key environmental laws provoked ire. And Mr Dole's opposition to abortion is unpopular in a state where all the leading Republicans are "pro-choice". He tried to play the local card last week, praising the LA Dodgers baseball team. Except he called them the Brooklyn Dodgers, a name they lost nearly 40 years ago. And in youth-worshipping California, the 78-year-old candidate made an even worse stumble: he fell flat on his back, giving the world's press the perfect visual metaphor for his campaign.

## Clinton accuses Whitewater investigator of vendetta

PRESIDENT Clinton claimed to be the victim of a vendetta by the Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr yesterday while a report called Hillary Clinton's legal work in Arkansas back into question, writes Martin Walker in Washington. "Isn't it obvious?" Mr Clinton demanded, when asked during a television interview whether the Ken-

neth Starr investigation was politically biased against him. "The facts speak for themselves." He cited the claim of his former Whitewater partner Susan McDougal, now serving a contempt of court sentence for refusing to give testimony to Mr Starr's investigation. "Susan McDougal and her lawyers said the prosecutors did not want her to

tell the truth. They wanted her to say something about us [the Clintons] whether it was the truth or not — there's a lot of evidence to support that." The eight federal judges in Arkansas yesterday appealed in unison to the US attorney-general, Janet Reno, to decide whether Mr Starr should be hauled into court to answer a legal complaint that he is too

partisan to be doing his job. Meanwhile federal regulators issued a report which said that Mrs Clinton had as a lawyer drafted legal documents for the failing Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan which were later used to deceive bank examiners. Mrs Clinton's lawyers said she had "no knowledge" of her clients' subsequent attempts to deceive.

## Nuclear states put names to test ban treaty

Jan Black in New York

CALLING a "giant step forward", President Bill Clinton yesterday led the world's declared nuclear powers in signing a global treaty outlawing nuclear tests. Malcolm Rifkind, Britain's Foreign Secretary, followed counterparts from China, Russia and France to the General Assembly podium to sign the treaty, which Mr Clinton said "points upwards a century in which the roles and risks of nuclear weapons can be even further reduced — and ultimately eliminated". Mr Clinton, far ahead in the polls for the November election, put his name to the document using the same pen with which John Kennedy signed the partial test ban treaty halting atmospheric nuclear tests in 1963.

Sensitive to charges of United States hostility to the UN, Mr Clinton blamed Republicans — "some Americans — who ignore our interdependence and the benefits of co-operation" — and pledged to pay Washington's

debts of over \$1 billion (\$965 million) to the cash-strapped organisation as long as reforms continued. Before his speech, Mr Clinton met the UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, for 15 minutes. Conspicuously, there was no discussion of Mr Boutros-Ghali's future after American insistence that it will veto a second term for the Egyptian. But they agreed on the importance of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Mr Boutros-Ghali said: "A major milestone has been reached in making the world safer for generations to come."

The president citing objections by India, said: "Some have complained that I do not mandate total nuclear disarmament. I would say to them, do not forsake the benefits of this achievement by ignoring the tremendous progress we have made towards that goal." He also called for ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Republican-dominated Senate has not yet done so), for the freezing of production of fissile material, and for further reductions in nuclear arsenals when Russia ratifies the Start 2 agreement. But he was on more contentious ground with a renewed call to isolate three "pariah" states. "As long as Iraq threatens its neighbours and people... as long as Iran supports and protects terrorists... as long as Libya refuses to give up the people who blew up Pan Am 103 [over Lockerbie]... they cannot become full members of the family of nations," he insisted.

Afterwards, the Russian foreign minister, Yevgeny Primakov, insisted that sanctions should be used only in "exceptional cases". Mr Rifkind, in a low-key address mostly devoted to trade and development, made a pitch for support for a UN declaration that would exempt from refugee status people linked to terrorism — a device crafted largely to deny militant Muslim fundamentalists asylum in Britain. He also urged continued international interest in Hong Kong after its return to China in July.

But the treaty dominated the day. "In the annals of history, it will be told that nuclear testing happened over a period of 40 years in the 20th century and then never again," said Norway's prime minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland. Yet there were critics. "The CTBT still faces an enormous uphill struggle," warned the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. "Forty-four named countries are compelled to sign before it can come into force. This is unprecedented in disarmament talks and smacks of deliberate wrecking tactics. The turbulent negotiations have shown... that if the nuclear club does not start making serious progress on disarmament soon then it will have been little more than a public relations farce."



A young boy leaps from the Royal Palace boat house in Phnom Penh into the Tonle Sap River, which changes direction every rainy season, flowing north to the Tonle Sap lake after being swollen by flood waters. PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVEN WHITEHEAD

## Mayan relics lost to expert looters

Phil Gurnson in Chetumal, Mexico

IT NEVER occurred to Roberto Rojas that his hobby of collecting Mayan relics from a nearby archaeological site could get him into trouble. "I've been doing it since I was seven," he said from his cell in Chetumal. "Anyone who passes by can find them." But 28-year-old Roberto, who repairs typewriters, had been out of work for six months and was desperate for money. The police picked him up before he could sell the dozen pieces he had in his backpack and then confiscated another 238 pieces from his family home. Now he could face a 10-year jail sentence.

Only a few of the 200,000 archaeological sites in Mexico have not been looted by casual collectors like Roberto or by gangs supplying the international black market. "We just don't know the scale of this clandestine traffic," said Enrique Nalda of the national anthropological institute, the body responsible for protecting the country's pre-Columbian heritage. "It's profoundly depressing — a kind of rape. Once you remove the piece from its context, you lose the chance to study its meaning."

The trade is fuelled by wealthy foreign collectors, dealers, and auction houses. "So long as there are collectors, whether private or public, and there is a black market in which pieces can fetch thousands of dollars, [looting] will persist," Alejandro Martinez, an archaeologist, writes in the current issue of *Arqueologia Mexicana*. Dr Martinez, the co-ordinator of archaeology for the institute, says the "only effective way of containing the looting is through tougher legislation

to dissuade the collectors". A 1986 convention banning the international trade in stolen relics has proved ineffectual. Clémence Chase Higgins, of Boston University, says economic factors are to blame. He said grave-robbing — the "second oldest profession" — was inevitable as any attempts to curb it would simply increase profits. Stricter laws have made it more difficult to trade in large objects such as Mayan stone stelae, or engraved pillars, which were often sawn into pieces before being transported. Small jade or ceramic items, which fit into a suitcase, have become more popular. Traffickers receive pieces found by peasant farmers but, occasionally, also from well-organised and expensive digs where heavy equipment is used. In one case, traffickers spent about \$80,000 (\$51,000) to remove the carved stone facade of a Mayan temple, which they later sold for \$400,000.

In 1986, traffickers in Guatemala stole more than 30 workers for six months to dig for Olmec relics. Experts who studied the 60-odd pits they left said the group had used specialised equipment, possibly including ground-penetrating radar. The big traffickers are rarely caught, and the treatment for those arrested is often lenient. José Luis Valdez was caught last year with more than 2,500 items worth about \$300 million. He was charged with possession and quickly released on bail of less than \$7,000, although he had a record of trafficking. Roberto Rojas, who had collected mainly fragments, said: "They want 10,000 pesos [about \$230] to let me out. I wish I'd never thought of the idea."

## Turks pound PKK hideaway

Chris Nuttall in Ankara

TURKEY yesterday continued its military onslaught in the eastern provinces of Tunceli on a forest where, according to commanders, up to 250 separatist Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) fighters were holed up. Warplanes bombed the Kinizik forest, helicopter gunships were in action and an estimated 20,000 troops were deployed in what could prove to be the last big push against the guerrillas before the Anatolian winter sets in and a plan to phase out a state of emergency in the eastern Turkey comes into effect. The hunt also appeared to be on again for the PKK's elusive regional commander, Semdin Sakik. Intelligence sources said he may recently have returned to Tunceli from northern Iraq.

The security forces were acting on information from a captured PKK militant that fighters were preparing to carry out ambushes from the mountainous area. After pounding it from the air, troops were expected to carry out a mopping-up operation. Officials said 10 men and one woman from the PKK had been killed in fighting at close quarters. Rebels launched an attack on a police post in the town of Tunceli in the early hours of yesterday. The authorities said the clash lasted for three hours and left two guerrillas dead, one of them a woman.

Two police officers were wounded. Elsewhere, two German tourists were reported to have been kidnapped when militants stopped a bus on its way to the eastern city of Van. The military operation coincides with a visit to the area by the chief of general staff, General Ismail Hakkı Karadayı. He said: "Operations are continuing in the whole region, not just Tunceli." The "terrorists" had suffered "considerable losses," he added. "They will not be able to bear it for long." Officials said 460 rebels had been killed in the south-east since August 15. But the PKK has defied military reports of its imminent demise in the past and Turkey has been frustrated by the refugees the rebels have found in Syria, Iran and northern Iraq.

The foreign minister, Tansu Çiller, said this week that Turkey was still prepared to impose security zones inside northern Iraq to combat PKK infiltration. She was backtracking on remarks attributed to her in a New York Times interview that Turkey wanted President Saddam Hussein to again impose his authority on the north. The 12-year-old conflict in the south-east has given rise to allegations of human rights abuses. An Amnesty International delegation headed by its secretary-general, Pierre Sané, will arrive in Ankara today to discuss with the government "the deteriorating human rights situation".

## Gambians schooled for the vote

The country's military ruler aims to keep power in tomorrow's presidential election, writes Joseph Winter in Banjul

THE tiny west African state of The Gambia goes to the polls tomorrow to elect a president after 28 months of military rule. Four candidates are standing but only two are potential winners: the current head of state, Colonel Yahya Jammeh, and Ousainou Darboe, a lawyer and the compromise candidate of the various interests opposed to rule by young soldiers.

On July 22 1994 one of the most stable and democratic regimes in Africa was overthrown in a matter of hours by a group of officers, all under 30. President Dawda Jawara, who had ruled since independence from Britain in 1966, escaped in an American warship, first to Senegal, then to Surrey. The soldiers said they seized power because of "corruption and lack of development" under the ousted government. Many Gambians agreed with the soldiers, led

by the then Lieutenant Jammeh, that while Sir Dawda may have avoided the chaos seen in some neighbouring states, living conditions were as low as ever. But they did not want military rule to last very long. In this country of 1 million people, everyone knows everyone else and public opinion is powerful. With additional pressure from the West, the Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council (AFPRC) agreed to hold multi-party elections after two years. The elections are mobilising the entire population: upwards of 75 per cent of those eligible are expected to vote. Little has actually changed under military rule. Armed soldiers do not man checkpoints on every street corner. The markets remain an explosion of noise, smells and colour. On the beaches, muscle-bound young men still flex their wares in front of European women in search of ad-

venture. But tourism, once responsible for 12 per cent of GDP, has not fared well. Britain, the source of 60,000 holidaymakers in 1993/4, advised those without essential business to stay away, and the following year only 20,000 Britons passed through Yundum airport. The tourism ministry reacted by wooing new customers. Dutch, French and Spanish are now frequently heard on the beaches and arrivals have climbed back to around 60 per cent of pre-coup levels. Peaceful elections are essential to keep tourism on the rise. The signs are hopeful, although the two-week campaign has been marked by physical and verbal violence. "A vote for Jammeh is a vote for God," his supporters rejoice. "Yahya Jammeh has saved our country." He has built far more schools in two years than Sir Dawda did in 30. Gambians now have their own television station, hospitals, and a university. He has certainly been very busy. But his opponents point to the \$650,000 wasted on Arch 22 — a cross between a Swiss

### News in brief

#### Revisionist fights for visa

David Irving, a rightwing British historian who denies the Nazi Holocaust happened, challenged the Australian government yesterday to overturn a ban on his entry after the prime minister, John Howard, called at the weekend for more free speech and less political correctness. Mr Irving, who has questioned Hitler's involvement in the extermination of millions of Jews, said he would reapply for a visa to visit Australia. — AP.

#### Mexican killing

Jorge Garcia Vargas, a federal police officer in charge of fighting drug trafficking along the US border with Mexico, was tortured and shot to death, the seventh time this year that a senior police officer in northern Mexico has been killed. The corpses of three other men — also tortured — were found with Garcia Vargas. — AP.

#### Bomb-proof homes

Bomb shelters will be built in all new houses in Singapore from next year. Air raid shelters have been under con-

struction for years in schools, hospitals and government-built flats. Officials say 318 have been completed and another 128 are planned. — AP.

#### £10m film record

Independence Day, a Hollywood film about invading space aliens, smashed opening weekend box office records in Germany, film industry officials said yesterday. Directed by the German-born expatriate Roland Emmerich, the film earned DM22,626,312 (£10 million) and attracted 1,918,569 people in its first four days. — Reuter.

#### No fighting pledge

Bangladesh's foreign minister, Abul Hasan Chowdhury, has promised action to keep Bangladeshi workers from getting into fights in Malaysia, a senior Malaysian official said yesterday. There have been reports of Bangladeshi workers "disturbing" Malaysian women and fighting with Malaysians. — AP.

#### Typhoon victims

The most savage typhoon to batter China's Hainan Island in a decade left at least 38 people dead and 96 others missing, the official China Daily reported. — AP.

Call  
G  
Troops guard vote count

مكازم التحصيل



Murder of seven-year-old girl by released convict shocks Bavaria and sparks an agonised debate

# Call to castrate sex abusers

Ian Traynor in Berlin

GERMANY was plunged into an agonised debate over whether sex offenders should be chemically castrated yesterday after a convicted child abuser had confessed to the murder last week of a seven-year-old girl.

cal castration for sex offenders and the outrage provoked in Europe by the child abuse scandal in Belgium. Claudia Nolte, the federal minister for family affairs, said chemical castration should be considered to safeguard children.

## Belgians arrest 12th suspect

BELGIAN police made their 12th arrest yesterday in the country's child-murder and kidnapping case.

She was described as the companion of one of the leading suspects, Michel Niboul.

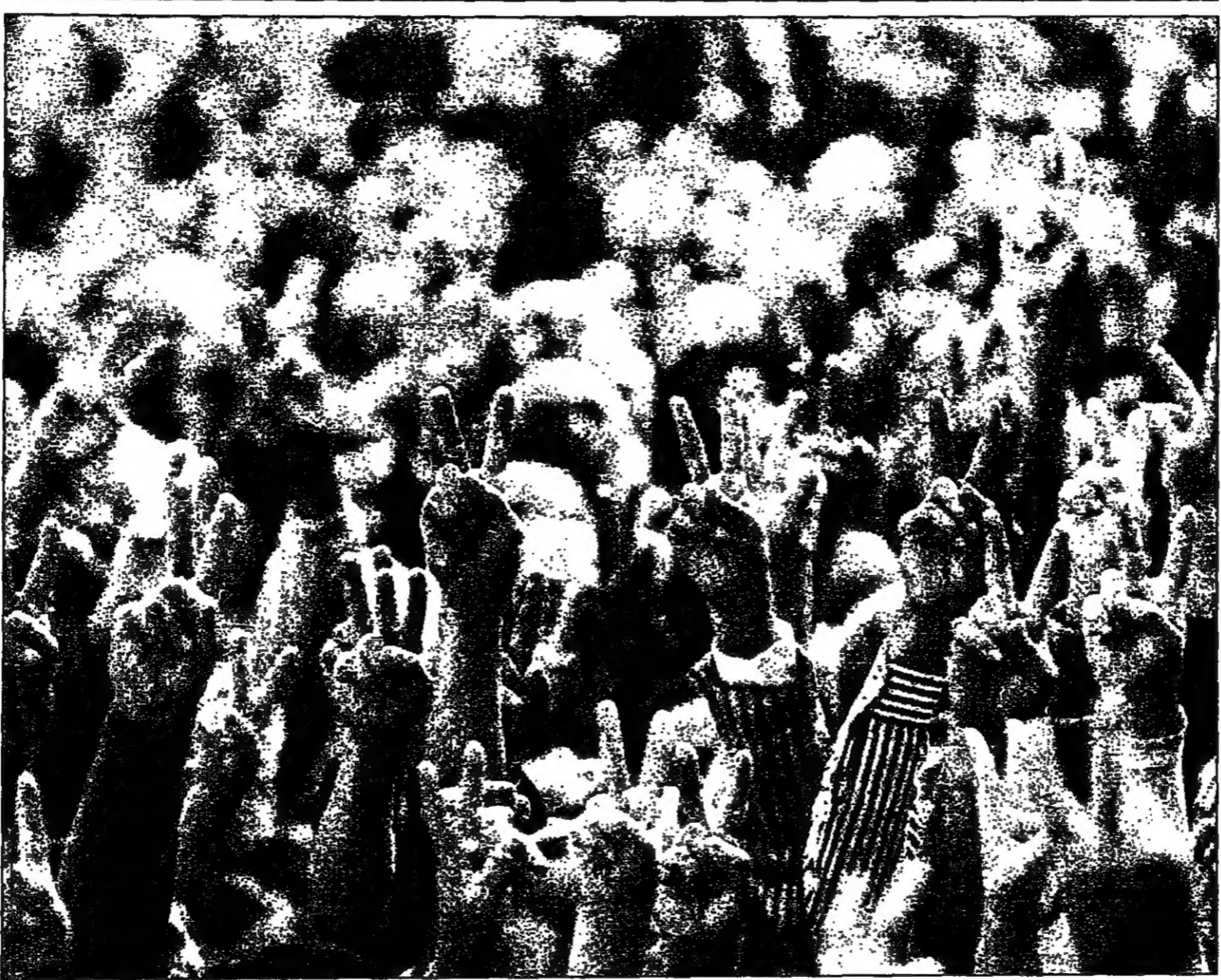
naked and sexually abused to a state of unconsciousness before she was dumped in the river, where she drowned.

undergo any form of sexual therapy while in jail. He is said to have believed inescapably during his three years in jail, and all those involved with his case recommended probation.

## Troops guard vote count

Lawrence Sheets in Yerevan

ELITE commando troops took up positions around key buildings in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, yesterday as the dispute continued over Sunday's presidential election.



Supporters of Vazgen Manukyan, former prime minister and leader of the Armenian opposition, raise their hands at a rally held in Yerevan against alleged government vote-rigging and intimidation. Widespread irregularities have been reported

More than 100 soldiers fanned out around the large brick parliament building and security was stepped up at President Levon Ter-Petrosyan's official residence.

Armenian state radio later quoted the commission as saying that Mr Ter-Petrosyan's share of the vote had fallen to 48 per cent after further counting.

Petrosyan. The former prime minister led 50,000 protesters through the streets of central Yerevan on Monday.

ded to vote for Mr Ter-Petrosyan by their commanding officers and said members of the armed forces and interior ministry had been present in many polling stations.

had established the culprits were Ter-Petrosyan campaigners.

atic fraud on a massive scale. The vast majority of us are very unhappy with the report.

## Lithuanian bombs hit British shops

Jon Henley in Helsinki

THREE British-owned optician shops in Lithuania were bombed yesterday, apparently because they had refused to pay protection money.

Organised crime has surged in the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia since they broke away from the former Soviet Union in 1991.

## Final approval likely for 'unfair' Bosnian poll

Julian Borger in Sarajevo

THE CHIEF international monitor overseeing the Bosnian elections gave them his half-hearted blessing yesterday.

client for the OSCE to approve the elections - a necessary step before a new Bosnian government can be formed.

turnout among non-refugees voters of well over 100 per cent, International Crisis Group analysts believe the turnout, according to OSCE figures, could be as high as 111 per cent.

## Russia and US agree rules for anti-missile defences

Martha Walker in Washington

RUSSIAN and American negotiators have agreed new rules for deploying short-range anti-missile defences.

The shops, owned by the Nottingham-based company Vision Express, were in the capital Vilnius, the second-largest city, Kaunas, and the northern town of Panevezys.

Police say the number of reported extortion attempts is declining as gangs move on to drug trafficking or prostitution.

ensuring that outcome, the right to certify the elections was taken away last week from the OSCE chairman, Flavio Cotti (the Swiss foreign minister who has been critical about the handling of the elections).

The poll was the most fraudulent of the 11 elections he had monitored

Next month talks will start on a second phase of modifying the ABM treaty to allow small-scale defence systems which could protect Russia and the US from individual ballistic missiles fired by rogue states.

The White House has been pressing for the agreement, because the Republican Congress and its presidential candidate Bob Dole are demanding the urgent installation of defences against small-scale missile attacks by a rogue state.

## World news in brief

### Iran 'will not seek to kill Rushdie'

IRAN has reiterated that its death edict against the British author Salman Rushdie is irrevocable, but added it will not send anyone to kill him.

### Juppé to call confidence vote

THE French prime minister, Alain Juppé, seeking to unite a fractious centre-right coalition he will seek a vote of confidence in his economic policy when parliament reconvenes next week.

### Eastwood and Locke settle

THE actor Clint Eastwood and his ex-lover Sondra Locke settled their court battle yesterday and a judge interrupted jurors in their third day of deliberations to tell them they could go home.

### Seoul to review line on North

THE South Korean president, Kim Young-sam, is considering changing policy towards North Korea after a Northern submarine dropped heavily armed agents on a Southern beach, Seoul media said yesterday.

### Dalai Lama visit angers China

THE Chinese foreign ministry said yesterday that Australia was interfering in the country's internal affairs by hosting Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, and that the visit would affect ties.

### Daredevil's skyscraper walk

AS thousands held their breath nearly 400 feet below, Jay Cochran, a Canadian, eased his way along a tightrope connecting two skyscrapers in Shanghai yesterday.

### Tunnel undermines Arafat

ISRAELI asserted its claim to the whole of Jerusalem yesterday by extending an archaeological tunnel which runs the length of the Al Aqsa mosque, the third holiest site in Islam.

### Nurses reject short white skirts

Nurses in dozens of public hospitals and clinics in New Delhi struck for two hours yesterday in support of demands for a new dress code.

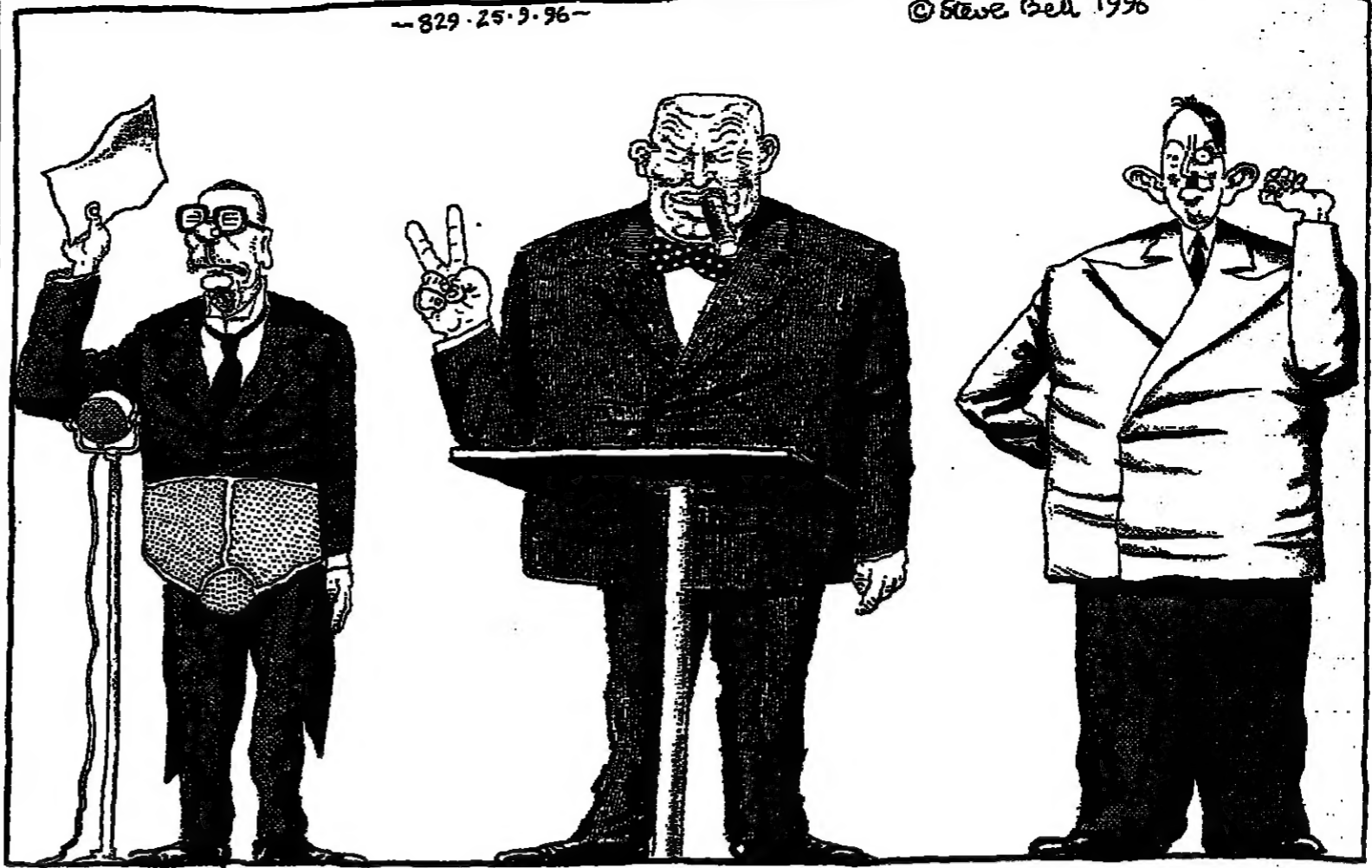
"I thought Mel Brooks was one of the most powerful men on earth and knew what he was doing. He was chief writer on Sid Caesar's Show of Shows, for God's sake!"



Claiming the Union Jack
Mr Ashdown has a cure for Tory Europhobia

A PARTY leader must always speak to multiple audiences in an annual conference speech and in an election year all the more so. First into the frame this autumn, Paddy Ashdown made a good fist of his big opportunity yesterday. On what was bound to be an overinterpreted occasion, his principal task was to stake out and reinforce a series of distinctive Liberal Democrat positions in anticipation of the next election which will more than ever be dominated by the Conservative-Labour contest. By that yardstick, yesterday in Brighton was a relatively straightforward political job well done. As usual, those in the hall simply wanted to be uplifted by an inspirational message, to remind them who they were and why they were there. Unlike Tony Blair next week and (even more) John Major in two weeks, Mr Ashdown had no difficulty with that. He is under no challenge within his generally united party and the party has realistic electoral goals. After all these years Mr Ashdown knows how to rekindle the Liberal Democrats' undiminished sense of mission and his troops will clearly leave Brighton on Thursday in as good heart as ever. Yet a party in good heart does not always win the election, as the Liberal Democrats know better than most. The millions who fleetingly catch the speech on the television at home want (if that is the right word in an era in which politicians are viewed with such cynicism) something less exalted than the activists, but no less memorable. Unobsessed by politics, they simply want to know whether this is a party to which they can entrust their vote and, ultimately, their country. It was Mr Ashdown's good fortune that he was presented yesterday with a chance to make that twin appeal at a time when it actually matters. His eyes were unavoidably on the coming elec-

tion, but there is a government crisis taking place this week, which might possibly end in a premature implosion of the Major Cabinet. The rekindled internal battles over Europe in the Conservative Party this week have shown more clearly than any amount of party conference oratory why it is so imperative for the Tory government to be defeated. The Government is unravelling before our eyes, and Sir Nicholas Bonsor picked out a few more stitches yesterday. The cumulative effect of this is that the long-term national interest in Europe is being shamelessly sacrificed to the Conservative Party's short-term obsessions, as a fresh crop of Europhobe press onslaughts against Kenneth Clarke shows. Yet the opposition parties have not always found the right words to give voice to this necessity. They have sometimes seemed daunted by the Conservatives' appropriation of the Union Jack. They have feared to find themselves on the wrong end of a jingo election. They have struggled to find an alternative patriotism to combat the brash Little Englandism coursing through the Tory Party and the right-wing press. Cue Mr Ashdown. The Liberal Democrat leader has developed into a good conference performer and although his speech was over-long, he made a bold effort to show that patriotism and tabloid nationalism do not have to be synonymous. This was urgent work and Mr Ashdown rose to the occasion. The most impressive and most important part of his speech laid into this phoney patriotism of Tory conference speeches, of abusive xenophobic journalism, and of blaming everything on Europe. Someone needed to speak for the great traditions of internationalist patriotism which the Liberal Democrats and the Labour Party jointly embody. Handed that opportunity, Mr Ashdown did his duty there too.



Letters to the Editor

Life, the universe and everything

RICHARD DAWKINS says that in the universe there is "nothing but blind pitiless indifference" - but how could an inanimate universe express that or any other attitude (Faith, hope and charity, September 23)? Keith Ward asserts that the motive of people without his belief is "to pursue one's own life without moral constraints" - but that is the condition of the psychopath, not the infidel. Henry Porter himself proclaims that an implication of a Godless universe is "inconceivable despair". This too is a statement of subjective fantasy. We can easily test its validity by asking how many people we actually know in that inconceivable state. My own reaction to a Godless universe is one of immense relief. My morality, like most people's, is neither religious nor scientific but (far better than Ward's) Whan sober. I don't believe the universe cocks an eye at me, whether in pitiless indifference or with a nod and a wink. I daresay it has better things to think about. GJ Elliot, 88a St Augustine's Road, London NW1 9RZ.

human beings, and its outstanding mysteries will be "explained away" by some future neuroscience. For the theologian, consciousness is that divine spark that stands as the condition of possibility of all knowledge, not least the kind of knowledge that Dawkins and Atkins have, as practising scientists, distinguished themselves in the pursuit of. What this stand-off singularly fails to make explicit is that the antagonists are mirror-images, each defining itself in antithesis to the other. The presuppositions underlying the reductionist's position are every bit as dogmatic and reliant on faith as the belief in a transcendent God. (Dr) Neil Gascoigne, Lecturer in Philosophy, Anglia Polytechnic University, East Road, Cambridge CB1 1PT.

WARD knows that there is not yet a scientific answer to everything and so he uses his faith to support the meaning behind life. And to his credit he follows his own Christian path without judging those of other faiths. On the other hand, Dawkins and Atkins take their undoubtedly exceptional scientific understanding of life, and then, through fear of not having all the answers, use this knowledge to assert there is no God. How do they know? Eighty per cent of people express some personal experience of something other; some explain this in terms of God. Dawkins himself writes that to our detriment we are obsessed with the why question: "We humans have purpose on the brain". Maybe if he extended his scientific mind outside his own dogma he would restrict his conclusions to his field of work. (Rev) Nic Frances, 12 Prince Alfred Road, Liverpool L15 5BS.

SINCE the meaning of life cannot be understood except in relation to what life is not; and since science can tell us nothing about what cannot be known, and religion can only guess at it, the Great Oxford Debate will not go far. The purpose of life is, of course, to live life knowing that its purpose will not be known. The realisation of this is the anxiety of our age. If anyone is told the reason I suggest they ask, "Why?" Martin Earl, 53 Leslie Road, London N2 6BJ.

Turbines blow hot and cold

THE wind industry is the author of its own misfortune, and the British Wind Energy Association should not blame this organisation for the fact that 80 per cent of planning applications for wind-power stations are rejected (Ingham protest blows out national wind farm plan, September 24). In its greed for profits, the wind industry (composed largely of privatised utilities and large multi-nationals) seeks out the best wind-speed sites regardless of their landscape value. More than 80 per cent of the targeted sites have been wholly unsuitable for large-scale industrial development. A good current example is the plan to put 100 vast turbines at Rookhope in the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. If the developers had selected more sites like Blyth Harbour - already industrialised, and appropriate for turbines - there would be no opposition and fewer planning rejections. Robert Woodward, Vice-chairman, Country Guardian, Aubrey House, Riverside, Twickenham TW1 3DS.

Tough on the myths about crime
Michael Howard's prisons policy has made the crisis worse

JUSTICE still lives. Even con artists are eventually caught. Even more satisfying is the thought that he has known he was going to be caught for five months. He has had plenty of time to prepare for yesterday's humiliation. Five months ago the Guardian reported that Michael Howard's honeymoon was over: crime was going up. The official minutes of a top level Home Office meeting where the alarm bell was rung were leaked to our Home Affairs editor in April. Now it's official. To use the simplistic language so beloved by the Home Secretary: crime is up - prison isn't working. Just a year ago the Home Secretary told us "a real turning point in the fight against crime" had been reached. At his press conference last year to announce a third consecutive year in which crime had fallen, an ebullient Mr Howard reminded sceptical reporters that this was "only the third time this century" this had happened. Moreover the eight per cent fall over three years was "the largest continuous fall in recorded crime." It was as though heaven was on his side as he battled with the then Lord Chief Justice, who was still insisting that detection, not detention, deterred crime. A wise home secretary would have been more cautious. A more truthful one would have acknowledged that although crime was down in the previous three years, in the three year period before that it had risen by 42 per cent - a rise that was not only the biggest since records began

last century but would have taken years to wipe away by the reductions Mr Howard was trumpeting. Of course, all crime statistics need to be treated with caution. The true figure is not yesterday's five million for recorded crime but a figure almost four times higher - 19 million - as the latest British Crime Survey, also published yesterday, confirms. It is tempting to gloat over Michael Howard but it would be wrong. Too many people in the system have been hurt: probation officers, prison officers, police and prisoners. It was Mr Howard who tore up the work of his five Tory predecessors, not Labour. It was Mr Howard who ditched the 1991 Act, billed at the time as the third biggest change in the criminal justice system this century - along with the introduction of probation in 1907 and abolition of flogging in 1948. The architect of the 1991 Act, David Waddington, was also a hard-liner but even he recognised that prison could be "an expensive way of making bad people worse." Of course, prison was still to have its place but there was to be more emphasis on prevention and community punishment. All this was replaced by Mr Howard's one-club approach: prison works. Now the criminal justice system is in its deepest crisis for years. Only 4 per cent of people surveyed by the Home Office believed crime was falling and some 75 per cent rightly perceived it to be rising. For all the Home Secretary's headline chasing, Joe Public remains unimpressed.

Chains of abuse

JULIE Binder's argument for the law to be changed regarding stalkers in the light of the recent acquittal of Dennis Chambers is a sound one (You'll never walk alone, September 19). Whilst the law concerning physical abuse offers some form of protection against women, albeit unsatisfactory in many areas, psychological abuse is still misunderstood by many and not taken seriously enough. The man that Margaret Hunt was forced to resort to a charge of GBH to attempt to secure justice underlines the need for urgent reform. A law specifically aimed at deterring stalkers and other mental abusers should be drafted without delay. Having endured five-and-a-half years of physical and psychological abuse from a violent alcoholic, I am well aware of the lasting effects. The mental abuse left far deeper scars and was infinitely harder to endure than a battering. It is a slow-burning torture which preys on and controls the mind. I would often be relieved when I was hit as it meant that the mental games would desist for a while. The majority of women in prison have suffered some form of abuse in their lives. The mental scars still show yet they are given little help to deal with their trauma. Perhaps if they had been taken seriously in the first place, they might not have ended up inside as their suffering pushed them into other forms of antisocial behaviour. Women are the victims of anti-sociality. If certain feminists cannot appreciate this, then they are unable to sympathise with alien situations. Unless the law is changed, the chain of abuse will continue to increase. A minority of men has also suffered from female stalkers and their rights must also be protected. Clare Barstow, HM Prison Durham, Old Elvet, Durham DH1 3HU.

Organic farming takes root

THE UK has the lowest percentage of organic farmland in the EU and is being obstructed by the relatively small grants offered by the Government to farmers to switch (Prince hits at farming's 'unnatural methods', September 20). The reform of the European Common Agricultural Policy in 1992 provided incentives for farmers to convert to organic agriculture. This was directed at increasing extensive farming whilst lowering European food mountains. Other EU members have all supported organic agriculture as a form of extensification by granting financial aid and research for the conversion process. Austria has the largest amount of organic farmland in Europe at 12 per cent; Germany and Denmark have 2 per cent and Britain a mere 0.3 per cent. In the UK, the high demand for organic milk is causing some organic milk to be imported from the Netherlands. Whereas most organic food markets have a national supply and demand structure, up to 70 per cent of all organic foods sold in the UK is imported because of the shortage of domestic supplies. The principal factor preventing development of the organic food market in the UK is lack of government funding. Many retailers are interested in stocking organic foods but are dissuaded by low and irregular supplies. The major British supermarkets have introduced limited organic food ranges but have not capitalised on the growing environmental concerns by marketing the foods as other European retailers have successfully done. The demand for these foods in Europe stems from raised environmental awareness. Customers are willing to pay extra for higher-quality and more nutritious foods and, in the case of organic meat, for food-safety reasons. European consumers decide by purchasing power whether or not they support organic farming in mainland Europe. It appears the British Government has made the decision for the people that there is no demand, and is thus not increasing funding. Unless the Government have plans to take organic farming seriously as a form of sustainable agriculture, then its organic food market is forecast to remain a niche and a target for foreign producers. Amarjit Sahota, Frost and Sullivan, Sullivan House, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH.

Cheers

HERBERT MORRISON was accused of many things, but never until now of being an alcoholic. You allege (Role models, September 18) that Hugh Dalton stated that in 1935 the choice as Labour leader between Attlee and Morrison was between "a nonentity and a drunk". He actually said that, apart from Morrison, this was how the choice presented itself. The "drunk" was Arthur Greenwood. Kenneth Morgan, The Croft, 63 Millwood End, Long Hanborough, Witney, Oxon OX8 8BP.

A Country Diary

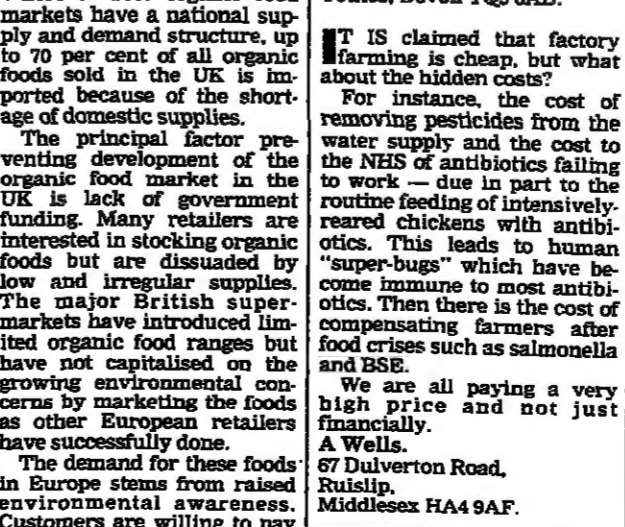
SOUTH DEVON: Thoresat always saw the south-west as the direction of adventure and freedom: "The future lies that way to me, and the earth seems more unexhausted and richer..." The Cornish Riviera Express ought to use his words as a motto. It is still the most extraordinary train in the land, so full of picnicers and backpacking pensioners that, even in autumn, you cannot help feel that thrilling sense of beginning a childhood holiday. Beyond the Dorset border the landscape starts to come alive. Buzzards soar over the track and deer watch from the fields. South of Exeter the line follows the edges of the river Exe and Teigne, and every few hundred yards I glimpsed a little egret, its waiting white plumage seeming wildly exotic against the English mud. They are moving up from France in increasing numbers - part indeed, of the way "the future lies". Later, as I meandered up the River Tamar - one of the most grossly polluted rivers in its southern reaches - the banks were edged with spectacular and beautiful drifts of Indian balsam, a garden escape that also found its wild British foothold in the south-west. On this warm September day, with barely an indigenous species left in bloom, it was a godsend, and the plants were bent over by their insect visitors: beetles, butterflies, dragonflies on the hunt, and bees so laden with white pollen that they were blundering into the balsam's explosive seed-pots and setting off salvos of flying fruit. I confess I am an unrepentant fan of opportunistic immigrant plants. Contrary to conventional conservationist belief, the latest research by the Botanical Society of the British Isles suggests that few pose any threats to native vegetation. And they act as buffers against climate change and magnanimous fillers of the way "the future lies". Later, as I meandered up the River Tamar - one of the most

Seeking Third Party assurance
The SNP is riding high: but where does it stand on devolution?

THE week's most important party conference may not be the one in Brighton but the one starting today in Inverness. Unlike the Liberal Democrats, the Scottish National Party are on the crest of a wave in the polls. Big electoral gains - and the possibility of a key role in a hung parliament - seem a more realistic prospect for Alex Salmond than Paddy Ashdown's right now. In the aftermath of Labour's recent Scottish confusions, the SNP have jumped to 29 per cent, up seven points on their 1992 election showing. Party leaders believe they are on course to take 12-15 seats (against four now) next time round. This could be wishful thinking just as long as Labour continues to poll as well as it does. But there can be little doubt that the trend of Scottish opinion is moving the SNP's way again. Certainly Labour's handling of its devolution plans has been a gift to Mr Salmond. Nearly three in five Labour voters now

say that the SNP is their second-choice party (only one in four said that 20 years ago). If the result of the general election is tight, then these things will matter very much indeed. Mr Salmond says he sees the next election as "an all-or-something campaign". We know what "all" means to a Scottish Nationalist - independence. It is not so clear what he implies by "something". In particular, Mr Salmond will have to answer a question thrust upon him by Labour's commitment to a referendum. Is his party going to campaign in favour of devolution or against it? Much will hang on the answer. A nationalist party which sees devolution as an untouchable sell-out will never command as much trust as one which accepts it as a genuine advance. The SNP has a strong "all-or-nothing" tradition. Mr Salmond needs to face it down this week if his party is to maintain its current surge.

AND BEFORE THE BIG BANG THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING AT ALL... EXCEPT A SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE.



PLEASE include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters; shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

مكرمان النجھل



Diary  
Matthew Norman

GLANCING at Faces of Labour, The Inside Story, by the Observer's Andy McSmith (out just in time for next week's conference), my eye is caught by a tribute to the author on the back cover. "One of the most biased, ill-informed, malicious and unpleasant journalists in Westminster," says Mandy Mandelson. Heaven knows, such violent feeling is out of character... and so, wondering what could have caused it, we turn to the penultimate chapter, The Myth of Mandy Mandelson. It is, of course, a former Labour press officer, relates that Mandy sent publishers an original outline for The Blair Revolution, his riveting book, which contained material so incendiary that he had to be removed from the project. Much concern, trade unions, coalition government and constitutional reform, but we begin today with a savage criticism of John Smith (who loathed Mandy) and then turn him into the darkness for his "obstinacy in sticking to an electorally doomed Shadow Budget despite Neil Kinnock's better judgement". In an odd oversight, there is no reference at all to those who sanctioned the calamitous rally in Sheffield.

WHAT Elizabeth Smith would make of Mandy's harsh words is uncertain, but her tolerance for her husband's memory is running low. So furious was Lady Smith about the U-turn on Scottish devolution — one of John Smith's passions — that only serious schmoozing from both Donald Dewar and George Robertson stopped her going public.

AT the Guardian-sponsored Lib Dem Conference debate yesterday, colleagues were approached by Jane Ashdown. "Oh, I just have to tell you that we can't have the Guardian at home any more," lamented Mrs Pantis, "for fear of Paddy having a heart attack. He's thrown it across the kitchen a couple of times in a fit of rage, so we can't have it anywhere near the house."

THE reason for this, it seems, is a perceived lack of Lib Dem coverage, so let us build bridges today by concluding with news of the battle to succeed Pantis. The moment the Economist, although citing Ming Campbell as the likeliest Lib Dem leader, described Charles Kennedy as "a young and telegenic alternative" (and he is telegenic, that is, in comparison with the King of Tonga), the Campbell mob let it be known all over Brighton that the young Charles was taught by a certain Roddy Wright, former Bishop of Argyll and the Isles. "He was briefly my moral tutor," says Charles, of a time long before he appointed Cyril Smith as his fitness instructor.

IN a classic Fleet Street skirmish, the Daily Mail and Daily Express have fought over Terry Major-Ball. "It's been very uncomfortable, because there are very nice people on both sides," says Terry. "But I gave my word, and my word is my bond." And so Terry is sticking to a verbal agreement to write a column for the Mail at £250 a column, despite an Express counter-offer of £400. Since we last spoke, meanwhile, his daughter Fiona has been married, while Terry has faced a new domestic crisis. "It's the ironing board," he explains. "It's not got the width to take a full trouser, you see, but Shirley is insisting on efforts to replace it." And why is this? "Sentimental value. It was our wedding present from Young John, you see. Mind you, it's a very nice ironing board, and it's done sterling service — we had it for over 20 years and several times — but I feel it's time for a change."

MEANWHILE, in the fortnightly Shalom comes news of Terry's extended family, his mishkochins, to use the Yiddish. Norma Major's father Norman Wagstaff was Jewish, it reports, and Norma had an Aunt Golda, an Uncle Solly and "a Grandma Bessie whose fried fish she remembers well". This is uncanny: the Diary has a Grandmas Bessie whose fried fish it remembers well, too. Would Norma by any chance be interested in forming a club?



# The blind alley of a penal policy of populism

## Commentary David Windlesham

CRIMINAL statistics are a notorious maze which politicians enter at their peril. What at one moment seems to be a promising avenue leading towards political advantage can soon turn out to be a blind alley. When the weather worsens it is hard to find an exit.

Michael Howard is currently experiencing this tribulation after the publication yesterday of figures showing a small increase (0.4 per cent) in recorded crime in England and Wales, and a far larger one of 10 per cent in offences of violence against the person. Worse still, within the violent-crime category the most serious and life-threatening offences rose by 15 per cent in the 12 months to the end of June.

Ministers who deploy criminal statistics to demonstrate the success of their policies have usually been quicker to point out the necessary qualifications when the figures go up than when they go down, as has been the general pattern over the last three years. Home Office figures include only offences reported to and recorded by the police. They take no account of the large number of offences which for a variety of reasons are not recorded. Within the overall statistics, there will be increases for some categories of crime and decreases for others. Regular sample surveys are a better guide to the actual scale of offending experienced by victims, but there again fluctuations need to be treated with caution.

Yesterday's statement is fortuitous, for shortly the Home Secretary will once again be addressing the Conservative Party Conference. In the past he has relied on greater severity in sentencing as his main response to levels of offending which are well beyond the tolerance of the electorate. At Blackpool last year, with little or no prior consultation within or outside government, Michael Howard announced proposals to remove from the judges the

power to sentence certain offenders according to the circumstances of the crime — those offenders who were convicted for the second or third time of serious violent or sex offences, trafficking in Class A drugs, or burglary of a dwelling.

A Bill is forecast for the final session of this Parliament. It will prescribe lengthy mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment, from which judges may depart only

if there are genuinely exceptional circumstances. Although the model, and in some places the actual language, has been borrowed from the United States, the policy of three strikes and you're out, is a life sentence after two previous convictions for serious felonies or drug offences, has been adapted to two strikes by requiring an automatic life sentence to be imposed on all offenders over the age of 18 who are convicted for the

second time of a serious violent or sex offence. Yet in America, despite mandatory sentencing terms of imprisonment of a length hitherto unknown in this country, and a prison population more than four times higher per capita than ours, violent crime is far more common. It is the prevalence of violence and the recourse to physical force and access to firearms that distinguishes crime in America

from any other developed nation state. As anyone with first-hand experience of the criminal-justice system knows, a high proportion of crimes of violence are committed on impulse, often under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This does not make them any more excusable, nor reduce the gravity of the harm they have done to their victims. But it does mean that harsh sentences intended to deter can have only a limited effect. The

importance of release programmes and supervision after release from prison was brought out by the recent Probation Service study of re-offending by those who were prematurely released after misunderstandings about how the length of their sentences should be calculated.

The rise in the number of recorded crimes of violence should be seen as more than a temporary political embarrassment by ministers and their supporters in Parliament who will soon be deciding whether to sanction the most profound changes in sentencing policy in modern times. It is a warning sign that policies rooted in popular appeal may not achieve the intended effect of reducing the appalling consequences of violent crime.

Lord Windlesham is Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, and a former chairman of the Parole Board. Volumes III of his work on Responses to Crime will be published on October 17 (Oxford University Press, £40). Catherine Bennett is away.

## A Bill is forecast for the final session of this Parliament. It will prescribe lengthy mandatory minimum sentences

calculating criminal who plans his crime carefully in advance, weighing up the potential risks and benefits, may sometimes be deterred, but such offenders are in a minority. As yesterday's figures show, offences of violence can and do increase, irrespective of what Parliament may lay down as penalties.

What does reduce the rates of offending is prevention. The fact that reported offences of burglary have decreased is a welcome indication of better security devices in the home and enhanced effectiveness of policing and detection.

The importance of pre-release programmes and supervision after release from prison was brought out by the recent Probation Service study of re-offending by those who were prematurely released after misunderstandings about how the length of their sentences should be calculated.

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# The children we are sending to prison

## Isabel Hilton

THE party of freedom and choice continues to pursue its passion for standardisation and testing in education. In the past few weeks the Secretary of State for Education, Gillian Shephard, has announced two new projects — the testing of five-year-olds on entry to school and the homogenisation of teacher-training courses.

There is an argument for both, if intelligently applied, but on the evidence so far each is likely to work to the disadvantage of Britain's biggest educational minority — dyslexic children. About 10 per cent of children suffer some degree of dyslexia, 2 per cent severely. These are not stupid children, though are often misperceived as such.

Dyslexia is inconvenient to schools; those who suffer from it require special rules and extra attention. They are not always easy to recognise and by the time their problems are picked up they have often become frustrated or withdrawn. But this is not a choice between giving money to a privileged minority or concentrating funds on the more responsive majority. Ignored dyslexia costs individuals their main chance in life, and the social and financial costs of that are a charge we all pay, sooner or later. The financial cost of attending to dyslexia is a fraction of the true cost of neglecting it.

Dyslexia is no respecter of race or class. The only difference between the middle-class and the deprived dyslexic child is that one is more likely to receive help and the other, as research is beginning to show, is likely to end up in jail. One US study reports that 52 per cent of a sample of recent prisoners was found to be dyslexic, and recent work at one inner-London drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre found 91 per cent of dyslexics among the residents. Many British experts find these figures suspiciously high — but would welcome further research, since none contests that dyslexics are heavily over-represented in British, and US, jails.

Dyslexia is not a moral failing. Its sufferers carry no criminal gene. Their difficulty is that the rest of the world operates with a set of codes that they find hard to perceive and understand. Since so much depends on these codes and their arrangements — reading, writing, arithmetic — severe dyslexics risk being perpetually barred from learning. When the class begins to

read, the dyslexic child just doesn't get it. If the teacher has not been trained to recognise the condition, the child may be perceived as lazy, uncooperative or stupid — at best a late developer. Training in recognition of dyslexia has not been part of traditional teacher training. The child grows miserable and frustrated. He may disguise his bewilderment for a time by counterfeiting reading. He will look at the pictures and guess at the words. He will memorise the text as others read aloud and try to reproduce it, anything to avoid the conclusion that he is as stupid as his teacher seems to think. By the time he is eight or nine, he may be thought slow. He has lost confidence and withdraws from an experience of education that has brought only frustration.

If he never learns to read properly, there is no way forward. It's hardly surprising that a proportion of such children grow up anti-social. This could all be avoided. Dyslexia cannot be "cured" — but the consequences can be minimised. Children can be taught to read and write, the catastrophic collapse of self-esteem can be avoided, and they can be taught how to cope. Dyslexia is now officially recognised and there is a statutory obligation on schools to provide for it, but training and testing are under-resourced and the system sluggish, and only provides for the most severe cases. The charities founded by middle-class campaigners — the British Dyslexia Association and the Dyslexia Institute — develop tests and teaching methods, but complain that the pressures of the national curriculum mean that there is no space in the timetable to withdraw children from class for the extra help they need.

And as schools in both the public and private sectors are drawn into a philosophy of competition, league tables and "efficient use of resources", they begin to screen out these children who are heavy on resources and unlikely to produce high exam performance.

IF MRS SHEPHARD'S tests for five-year-olds are to be a constructive exercise, and not just another stick with which to beat schools, perhaps she would care to consider a proposal from the Dyslexia Association: that her tests be teamed with an assessment for dyslexia. The association has developed screening programmes that can predict which children are likely to be dyslexic. Let Mrs Shephard incorporate those in her tests and then devote to these children the resources they need. They will repay the attention, because without literacy they may never hold down jobs. It costs £25,000 to keep a man in prison for a year. Why not spend some of it giving the child a chance?



# You can swear by it

We may well be offended, but increasing exposure means that one of our strongest swear words is losing its bite. But we need taboos, argues John Ayto

WHEN Kenneth Tynan said "fuck" on the BBC in the late 1960s, spines stiffened on three-piece suits the length and breadth of the country. It was as if the Archbishop of Canterbury had dropped his drawers during the Coronation. But last week, when Jane Horrocks said "fucking" on a take-off of a children's television programme, it scarcely raised a molehill on the obscenity seismograph.

Tomorrow the theatrical world will further erode the word's ability to shock. A new play by Mark Ravenhill will open at the Royal Court in London: its most notable aspect, upon which publicists have been quick to capitalise, is its title: Shopping And Fucking. The expression dates back to the early eighties, when it was applied — usually abbreviated to "S n F" — to a type of pulp fiction featuring rich, glamorous, high-spending, highly sexed women.

Are the billboards of Britain ready for the f-word? In Newbury the play will be advertised as Shopping And. In most venues, the title comes out as Shopping And F\*\*\*ing. The Royal Court itself has opted, Freudianly, for Shopping and FEEffin'

which it appears is said to be licensed at the covering-up of a word deemed worthy of inclusion in the Oxford English dictionary. So where do we stand with fuck nowadays? Where can you say it, and write it, and where can't you? And what is going to happen to it in the future?

The term's stereotypical role in the past was as a vulgarism, characteristic of the speech of the lower orders. Its emergence on to a

wider stage (signposted by its first appearance in a general English dictionary, the Penguin English Dictionary, in the early 1960s) has been sanctioned, it seems, on the understanding that it is in the hands of those sophisticated enough to cope with it.

The word appeared in art films long before it made it into the commercial cinema (in 1993, the Guardian reported that "whenever Jeff Bridges said 'fuck' it was changed to 'frig', a standard euphemism used by Hollywood studios when they prepare a film for broadcast on television"). It is common coinage in Booker prize-winning novels, conspicuously absent in popular romance.

It is a well-observed phenomenon, but tabloid newspapers which happily print the most salacious details of

dance but yet with a measure of gravitas to preserve, has mentioned it in 82 articles over that period. But the Guardian has been happy to let it all hang out, with no fewer than 209 fucks.

Clearly, if you view your audience as centre-to-left intelligentsia, you reckon they can take it. Indeed, you may think they jolly well ought to take it in an article for the Guardian Weekly in January, 1995, the author Jean Aitchison, Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communication at Oxford, specifically wrote "f\*\*\*". She requested that she be consulted about any changes, and so was surprised on seeing the paper to find one amendment: the copy editor had changed "f\*\*\*" to "fuck". It seems that the only use the Guardian has for the f-word

left in our repertoire of expletives. But here, too, gradual dissociation from their original meanings is breaking down the taboo on them. *Shit* is casually spat out by people who 30 years ago might well have found themselves physically incapable of saying it in public. *Fuck* has further to go than *shit*, but it is going in the same direction. As Jean Aitchison said in this year's Reith Lectures: "F-words (sexual swearing) and s-words (excrement swearing) no longer horrify so many people. Their meaning has weakened as the original connection with sex and excrement fades."

In 1996 we may still not be ready for *fuck* on permanent public written display, but it is surely only a matter of time. The writing is on the wall. But then what shall we do? We need taboo words, as escape valves for our anger. They are essential to our psychological well-being. Now that religion, sex and excrement have become worked out, are there other forbidden seams we can exploit? The prospects do not look promising. The most powerful linguistic taboos at the end of the 20th century are those against terms of racial abuse, and for words relating to various disabilities, physical and mental. Not exactly the sort of thing that springs to your mind when you hit your thumb with the proverbial hammer. Perhaps we will just have to count to 10, after all.

John Ayto is the author of Euphemisms (Bloomsbury) and the co-editor of the Oxford Dictionary of Modern Slang (OUP).

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Murtaza Bhutto

# In the name of the father

**M**URTAZA Bhutto, who has been murdered in Karachi, aged 42, was a proud and embittered man. His life was transformed when the military dictator General Zia ul-Haq hanged his father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, in April 1979. At the time, Murtaza and his brother, Shahnawaz, were in London. Speaking at a public meeting in Hyde Park, he pledged to revenge his father's death. Soon afterwards, he disappeared from view.



Murtaza Bhutto was impatient. The quickest way to remove General Zia, he thought, was to bump him off

It later emerged that he had decided to set up an armed struggle organisation, al-Zulfikar (the Sword), which, through well-publicised and selective acts of terror, would bring down the Zia dictatorship. Murtaza fled from Tripoli to Damascus and finally set up his base of operations in Kabul, which had reasons of its own for destabilising General Zia.

The hijacking of a Pakistan International Airlines plane in 1981 was al-Zulfikar's most dramatic act and it resulted in the release of several dozen political prisoners. However, it also enabled Zia to temporarily crush the Movement for Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan, an umbrella organisation of Murtaza's sister Benazir, who, together with her mother, Nusrat, had remained in Pakistan and courageously fought the dictatorship at home. Benazir was convinced that only a mass movement would

shift Zia. Murtaza was impatient. He thought the quickest way to remove the general was to bump him off. Al-Zulfikar did on one occasion fire a Stinger missile at Zia's plane as it took off from Islamabad airport and came close to scoring a hit. But the failure proved costly and led to further repression in Pakistan.

The true story of al-Zulfikar and Murtaza Bhutto has yet to be told and there are rumours circulating that a remarkable insider's account of the organisation and its

leader has been written by Raja Anwar. If this is the case we have a treat in store. Anwar, who now lives in Frankfurt, was one of the most astute strategists close to Bhutto. His refusal to accept the divine right of Murtaza to succeed his father led to a death sentence being passed on him by Bhutto's father. Anwar was saved by the Afghans: will he now tell the tale?

After Zia's assassination and the restoration of democracy, Benazir Bhutto came to power. Murtaza, still in exile, felt cheated. In the patriarchal milieu of Sindh landlordism, the son is the heir. He returned to face trial for the hijacking and was, surprisingly, acquitted. His brother, Shahnawaz, had been poisoned in 1984 in strange circumstances in the south of France.

Murtaza was now the sole male descendant of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. He moved into the family homes in Karachi and Larkana. He had hoped that his mother might be able to get him a senior governmental position. It was said at the time that he wanted to be chief minister of Sindh. His sister, sensibly, refused.

Murtaza denounced her for betraying their father's legacy and formed a rival faction, which consisted largely of old cronies and new hangers-on. The only function of the new organisation was to harass his sister and his brother-in-law, Asif Zardari, whom he hated and denounced as "a looter and swindler" of the national wealth.

Last week, as he was returning home from a politi-



Dissenting voice... Murtaza Bhutto at a demonstration in London in 1978, calling for the release of his father

cal meeting, the police had established a checkpoint a few hundred metres from 70 Clifton, the Bhutto family residence. They ordered him to stop. He did. They ordered him and his colleagues to get out of the car. As they did, the police opened fire. Six bullets perforated Murtaza's body. He fell on to the dusty road, bleeding from the wounds. There was a hospital two minutes away, but the police did not take him there. When they finally released it was too late. The doctors insisted

that they could have saved him if he had been brought to them immediately.

Murtaza Bhutto died with the taste of blood on his cracked lips. Karachi's trigger-happy cops have become experts in manufacturing orphans, but this was no ordinary killing. It had the hallmarks of a premeditated murder.

When the prime minister was told she went into a delirium. At the hospital, she broke down. "When will they stop killing us?" she asked

over and over again as she wept without restraint. Tears of grief at the loss of her brother. Tears of shame that she was the prime minister of the country. It was a scene from a Greek tragedy.

Who killed Murtaza Bhutto? It is difficult to believe that the policemen who fired the shots did so spontaneously. If one of the country's intelligence agencies was involved, which one was it and who gave the order? It

is hardly a secret that there are forces in Pakistan that would like nothing better than to wipe out the entire Bhutto clan.

A few years ago, a coup attempt by religious zealots inside the army was uncovered and the plotters arrested. Their secret documents revealed that they were planning to kill Benazir, her husband and her three children. The question she must now ask herself is whether the exercise of power as an end in itself is worth the risk.

Murtaza was married twice. His second wife, Ghinwa, Lebanese-born and of Syrian origin, is now a possible contender to take over the leadership of his Pakistan People's Party. They have a 14-year-old daughter, Fatima, and a five-year-old son, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Jr, the only male heir.

Tariq Ali

Murtaza Bhutto, politician, born September 18, 1954; died September 20, 1996

Anne Kristen

## Player for Scotland

**A**NNE Kristen, who has died from cancer aged 69, was an actress familiar to television viewers for more than 20 years, principally in roles of strong character and often in dramas from her native Scotland. She was widely recognised as the crusty receptionist, Norma Sullivan, in BBC1's *Casualty*, but her career stretched back to her Glasgow school days.

Her father, Reginald Biles, was literary editor, and later deputy editor, of the *Glasgow Herald* and she grew up in an environment where books were important.

She went on to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow and as a medalist there, where she studied under Colin Chandler, she earned the right to become a member of the Glasgow Citizens' Theatre Company. She developed and expanded her repertoire through such plays as Arnold Wesker's *Roots* and Brecht's *The Good Woman of Sechuan*.



Anne Kristen in 'In Time of Strife' DOUGLAS JEFFERY

as well as playing Lady Macbeth and St Joan.

After the Citizens' she appeared in many theatres throughout the country, including the National, where she took a leading part in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. But her personal life reinforced her Scottish roots and, in the 1980s, she developed a particularly strong affinity with the fledgling Scottish Theatre Company.

She appeared in virtually all the best-known Scottish drama productions of recent years, from *Dr Finlay's Casebook* to *Sunset Song* and from *Hamish Macbeth* to *The Silent Screem*. But there was never anything hackneyed about her performances and they were often memorable for the sheer power of characterisation. As Tom Fleming said in a moving funeral service tribute: "She dealt in the essence of our elusive art form — humanity. She strove simply for the understanding of one human being by another."

Anne Kristen met and married the actor Iain Cuthbertson while she was at the Citizens' but they were later divorced. She had lived latterly at Ancrum in the Borders and her final television appearance, in BBC's Screen One drama series, was shown this month.

Brian Wilson

Anne Kristen, actress, born March 7, 1927; died August 7, 1996

Letters

*Jeanette Manjengwa writes from Harare, Zimbabwe:* Douglas Hyde (obituary, September 21) has a vision of a better world and his life was a struggle for justice for people throughout the world. His struggle was fuelled with tremendous love for humanity. I, like so many others from different parts of the world and of various generations, had the privilege of being inspired and encouraged by Douglas. His belief in the necessity of addressing political systems and eradicating root causes of injustice and poverty — rather than patching things up with isolated good deeds — together with his scrupulous integrity and adherence to the truth, inspired me 20 years ago, changing my life in a profound and meaningful direction.

His extraordinary energy despite his physical infirmities of later years, his commitment to people and to justice, his incredible range of knowledge and involvement and his clarity in understanding complex situations, as well as his affection, humour and joy in life, will be sadly missed by all those whose lives he touched. The flame that he kindled in so many hearts burns brightly and his spirit lives on. *Alida Continual*

*James Ross Moore writes:* When American singing dancer Louise Brown (obituary, September 6) came to Britain in 1927 to play Kitty Brown in *The Girl-Friend*, her fame had partially preceded her. Publicity accorded her a world's record "for pirouette dancing, of over 80 consecutive spins". Although after retirement she went on to perform great service to classical ballet, Brown's most memorable moment on a British musical stage came in the musical *Mill Darling* (1934). She and (Sir) John Mills performed Vivian Ellis's and Desmond Carter's *I'm on a Sea-See* — probably Ellis's best-loved song. Their duet, preserved on record, remains a joy.

Paul Draper

## Dancing through the dark

**I**MET Paul Draper, the tap-dancer who has died aged 86, in 1933 when we were asked to work together at the New Radio City Music Hall in New York. From then on I told everyone about him; he did the same about me and we kept each other working.

In 1935, I returned to the United States from England, and Draper got me a job with him at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. During that engagement we conceived the idea of trying a joint recital in Santa Barbara. The MCA agent who saw it told us to forget it, the public wouldn't take a tap-dancer and a mouth-organist for a full evening. In fact, Columbia Artists picked us up and, within two years, we were the highest-paid concert attraction on the circuit.

Paul Draper tap-balleted to Brahms, Handel and Paradies; I played Bach, Albeniz, Debussy and Gershwin. We worked together for 12 years and I cannot remember that we ever quarrelled, surely a record for a showbiz partnership. We also thought alike politically, which was to get us into deep trouble. We supported Henry Wallace's entry for the US presidency in 1948. So did the Communist Party and we knew that, but it didn't bother us.

It bothered us more when we were each blacklisted for our political opinions and beliefs. Neither of us were called before either the House Committee on Un-American Activities or Senator McCarthy's Internal Security Committee (they only ever called



Dancer on tap: 'His style was unique, completely original; it was his own art form and it has never been duplicated'

you if they had your Communist Party card.) We found, however, that signed contracts were being cancelled.

A lady in Greenwich, Connecticut, called Hester McCullough, wrote to the papers that we shouldn't, as proposed Communists, be allowed to perform our scheduled concert in Greenwich. We sued for libel, the case ended in a hung jury. The jury foreman wrote me a letter saying that the case should never have come to court. Also, that the evidence changed no juror's mind. It began as eight to four against us and it ended the same way.

Paul had an additional handicap in that his mother (author of a delightful book,

*Music at Midnight*) was a party sympathiser though never, so far as I know, a member. His defence of his mother during our libel trial was very moving. Later, each of us were offered "deals" if we would recant, name names, and so on. We were never tempted.

Roy Cohn, McCarthy's assistant, even suggested naming dead performers or, in my case, reading off a list of people named by others — as Cohn explained, nobody would be hurt. No deal.

Last year, Paul was involved in a car accident that left him seriously injured. I last spoke to him a few months ago when I phoned to invite him to my show at the

Village Vanguard. He explained that his emphysema (he was always a heavy smoker) was such that he hadn't the energy to make the trip to town. I intended to visit him at home in Westport, New York, but didn't, to my great regret, get to make it.

Paul Draper was a food and wine connoisseur and took a devilish delight in sending things back. Once, we dined at Voisin's in New York and I said, "Paul, just for this evening, don't send anything back." He agreed but later complained about the burden I had put on him saying it had strained our friendship.

When the Hearst papers took up Mrs McCullough's charges, Columbia Artists dropped us at once and one of their branches, Community Concerts, sent out a letter that they had no idea of the subversive ideas of Draper & Adler. The president of Community, Ward French, added that he had voted Republican all his life.

I got Paul the lead in a Paramount picture, *Holiday Inn*, assuring the director, Mark Sandrich, that although Paul had a noticeable stammer, it never affected him when reading lines. Unfortunately for Paul, Irving Berlin attended a rehearsal, heard Paul's stammer and insisted he be fired. He was, too. His part was played by Fred Astaire.

I have had offers from other dancers to team up with them but, when you've worked with the *nonpareil*, anyone else seems like second best. Draper was only one — Paul was the only one — besides his equal, He was, besides being my concert partner, my best friend.

Larry Adler

Paul Draper, dancer, born 1900; died September 20, 1996

Birthdays

Prof Struther Arnott, principal and vice-chancellor, St Andrew's University, 62; Norman Ayrton, theatre and opera director, 72; Ronnie Barker, comedian, 67; Jane Bradford, founder member, Women in Banking, 50; Sir Leon Brittan QC, EU commissioner for external trade, 57; Sir Colin Davis, conductor, 69; Martin Dermott, rugby league player, 29; Michael Douglas, actor, 52; Andrew Gardner, newscaster, 64; Mike Gibbs, jazz composer, 59; John Hills, racehorse trainer, 38; Sir David Hunt, former diplomat and Mastermind champion of champions (1982), 83; Catherine Zeta Jones, actress, 27; Gen Sir Edward Jones, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, former Commandant, Royal Green Jackets, 60; Felicity Kendal, actress, 50; Prof Sir William Mitchell, physicist, 71; Christopher Reeve, actor, 44; Tim Severin, explorer and author, 56; Michael Stephen, Conservative MP, 54; Vivien Stern, director, Nacro, 55; Commandant Daphne Strallow, former director, WRNS, 64; John Taylor, jazz pianist, composer, 54; Rowena Vining, diplomat, 75; Barbara Walters, television journalist, 65; Nicholas Wood, former president, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 48.

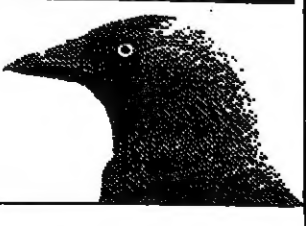
Death Notices

**NICHOLSON**, Timothy James (Gibson, of 20th September, aged and married son, brother, nephew and cousin (Edward) of Mrs Agnes M. Gibson, died Monday 20th September 20th at 60th Valby Crescent, South, Cornwall, aged 69. Buried at St. Andrew's Church, Brixton, London on Monday 23rd. Friends welcome.

Memorial Services

**Sir Anthony Parsons**, A Memorial Service for Sir Anthony Parsons GCMB LVO MC will be held in St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, London on Monday 27th, October at 3.30pm. In the place of announcement, telephone 0171 713 4567. Fax 0171 713 4259.

Jackdaw



## Homo barbie

**PALEOANTHROPOLOGY** Division, Smithsonian Institution. Dear Sir: Thank you for your latest submission to the institute, labelled "111-1" layer, seven, next to the clothes-line post. Homoid skull. "We have given this specimen a careful and detailed examination, and regret to inform you that we disagree with your theory that it represents 'conclusive proof of the presence of Early Man in Charleston County two million years ago.' Rather, it appears that what you have found is the head of a Barbie doll, of the variety one of our staff, who

has small children, believes to be the Mitu Barbie. We are loathe to contradict with your findings. However, we do feel that there are a number of physical attributes of the specimen which might have tipped you off to its modern origin:

1. The material is molded plastic. Ancient hominid remains are typically fossilized bone.
2. The cranial capacity of the specimen is approximately nine cubic centimeters, well below the threshold of even the earliest identified proto-hominids.
3. The dentition pattern evident on the "skull" is more consistent with the common domesticated dog than it is with the "ravenous man-eating Pliocene clams" you speculate roamed the wetlands during that time. Without going into too much detail, let us say that: a) the specimen looks like the head of a Barbie doll that a dog has chewed on; b) clams don't have teeth. To the best of our knowledge, no Barbie dolls were produced prior to 1956AD, and carbon dating is likely to pro-

duce wildly inaccurate results. Sadly, we must also deny your request that we approach the National Science Foundation's Phylogeny Department with the concept of assigning your specimen the scientific name *Australopithecus spiff-erine*. Speaking personally, I, for one, fought tenaciously for the acceptance of your proposed taxonomy, but was ultimately voted down because the species name you selected was hyphenated, and didn't really sound like it might be Latin.

However, we gladly accept your generous donation of this fascinating specimen to the museum. You should know that our director has reserved a special shelf in his own office for the display of the specimens you have previously submitted to the institution. When you visit we are particularly interested in hearing you expand on your theories surrounding the "trans-postulating fulfillment of ferrous ions in a structural matrix" that makes the excellent juvenile Tyrannosaurus Rex femur you recently discovered take on the deceptive appear-

ance of a rusty 9mm Sears Craftsman automotive crescent wrench.

Yours in Science, Harvey Rowe, Curator, Antiquities. Apparently an original letter sent out from the Smithsonian Institute and later posted on the internet at [www.musinc.com/antim/LaughPugh/jokes/j-tru-08.html](http://www.musinc.com/antim/LaughPugh/jokes/j-tru-08.html) Thanks to Julius Mistril.

Modern lingo

**STINGFO** — Any utterly useless piece of information about a celebrity (after Sting's new CD-ROM).

**MIDIOT** — A fool who thinks he can make better and better music with bigger and bigger toys.

**GIMMING** — Getting far too involved with unimportant or technical details of something to the detriment of actually getting anything done. "I spent the whole morning gimming about the colour of my new homepage..."

**Animal cracker**

**OUR SENTIMENTALITY** towards animals is a sure sign of the disdain in which we hold them. It is proportional to this disdain. It is in proportion to being relegated to irrelevance, to the inhuman, that the animal becomes worthy of the human ritual of affection and protection, just as the child does in direct proportion to being relegated to a status of innocence and childishness. Sentimentality is nothing but the infinitely degraded form of bestiality, the racist commiseration, in which we ridiculously cloak animals to the point of rendering them sentimental themselves. The trajectory by which animals have followed, from

divine sacrifice to dog cemeteries with atmospheric music, from sacred defiance to ecological sentimentality, speaks loudly enough of the vulgarity of the status of man himself — it once again describes an unexpected reciprocity between the two.

Those who used to sacrifice animals did not take them for beasts. And even the Middle Ages, which condemned and punished them in due form,



Citizen K... pet project

was, in this way, much closer to them than we are, who are filled with horror at this practice. They held them to be guilty, which was a way of honouring them. We take pride in them for nothing, and it is on this basis that we are "human" with them. We no longer sacrifice them, we no longer punish them, and we are proud of it, but it is simply that we have domesticated them. Worse, we have made of them a racially inferior world, no longer even worthy of our justice, but only of our affection and social charity, no longer worthy of punishment and death, but only of experimentation and extermination like meat from the butchery.

*Next time you buy your pet a new fluffy monogrammed coat, remember that, according to the French philosopher Jean Baudrillard, you are vulgarising the human race.* From Citizen K, arthouse animal mag.

Fresh air

THE USUAL voices are taboo at Toronto's O2 Spa Bar.

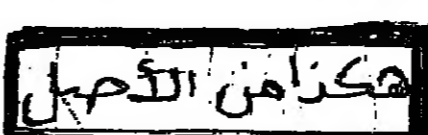
North America's first oxygen lounge. No food or alcohol is sold, smoking is prohibited, even dancing isn't encouraged — but you can score a natural high by snorting the pure O2 on tap. Poised at the sleek, sinuous bar or relaxing on black leather chaise-longues, young and fit buffing bongs filled with diced fruit. The oxygen infused with organic lemon, pineapple, or watermelon, sells for about \$1 a minute.

"We get a lot of people in their twenties," says Lissa Charron, a co-owner. "People who weren't raised with beer or smoking and who want a healthier social scene, college students... there's no legal age for oxygen."

*You are what you breathe, more fads and follies from the US, reported in Swings.*

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail [jackdaw@guardian.co.uk](mailto:jackdaw@guardian.co.uk); fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield



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Financial Editor: Alex Brummer  
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# Finance Guardian

## Air traffic control 'for sale'

Notebook

Simon Beavis  
Industrial Editor

**T**HE Government is drawing up controversial plans to rush through the privatisation of Britain's air traffic control service ahead of the general election because of increasing problems in modernising the system through its troubled Private Finance Initiative. It was claimed by unions and construction firms last night. The sale of the National Air Traffic Services was abandoned by the Government nearly two years ago amid a deluge of protests from airlines, the industry and the

House of Commons transport select committee. But the Treasury and the Department of Transport are now said to be urgently dusting off the plans and looking at ways to either sell off the air traffic control service or offer it on franchise in a move which could raise between \$600 million and \$1 billion for Treasury coffers ahead of the election. Some sources are even suggesting a sell-off could be pushed through without new legislation. Moves to revive privatisation follow worries that the Government is about to abandon plans to build a modern air traffic control centre at Prestwick in west Scotland.

UK airspace has traditionally been controlled by two centres but they are in desperate need of modernisation. However, a review is under way to decide whether the UK could manage with just one. A first new centre, at Swanton in Hampshire, is nearing completion at a cost of £250 million but has been dogged by delays and technical problems. It will replace the current southern centre near Heathrow airport at West Drayton, north-west London. Following soundings in Whitehall and with the Civil Aviation Authority, which runs the air traffic service, construction companies and unions believe the Govern-

ment is set to revert to privatisation so that the service, once sold off, could raise money for Prestwick on the capital markets should the centre still be seen as necessary. The DOT was non-committal on the issue last night but made it clear that privatisation remained an option. "Privatisation has always been a long-term aim of the Government, but there are no immediate plans for a sale," a spokesman said. The spokesman refused to comment on the Prestwick project until National Air Traffic Services had completed a review of the CAA's two-centre strategy. But contractors bidding for

work on the Prestwick centre have made it clear that they believe the project is about to be axed with worrying safety implications and with the loss of around 500 jobs among controllers. In a recent letter to Brian Donohoe, Labour MP for Cunningham South, the project director with AyrTec, a joint venture between Hughes UK and John Laing bidding for the Scottish centre, warned that the decision to abandon the two-centre strategy was driven by "wider agendas". "The main reason why two centres are necessary is safety," Ron Stafford, project director for AyrTec says in the letter. Should one fail the other could act as a vital

back-up. He adds: "Without such a contingency backup, centres in France or even Iceland would have to try to cope. "Successful governments have concluded that the risk is too great to contemplate." IPMS, the union which represents 3,100 air traffic controllers, has written to the Transport Secretary, Sir George Young, urging him to avoid a "quick political fix over the issue and abandon any notion of reviving privatisation. Joe Magee, IPMS national officer, said: "Our opposition to privatisation is not based on ideology but real concern over a safe, viable air traffic system."

## Old Labour hides under umbrella



Edited by Mark Milner

**N**EW Labour may command centre stage these days but Old Labour lives on in the strange nooks and crannies of policy-making. One of them contains its ideas for financial regulation. Here, intact, is the party's traditional faith in the efficacy of bugs, all-purpose, all-powerful state agencies with budgets to match. Yesterday, its economic spokesman Mike O'Brien told a conference in London that Labour was toying with merging the Serious Fraud Office with the Securities and Investments Board; the SFO would come under SIB's "umbrella" as its "prosecuting arm".

Prodi, who will unveil his government's budget plans on Friday, is making confident noises that the proposals, to which finance minister Carlo Ciampi is putting the final touches, will "take Italy into Europe". Nor is he going for a soft sell. Italy will face economic ruin if it fails to make the first wave of countries signing up for the single currency, according to Mr Prodi. In the UK the language of economic apocalypse is usually the preserve of those who oppose British participation in monetary union. Current targets for the single currency, according to the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, Mr Clarke may, or may not, be playing to his own rules but his Budget plans will have to conform to those of the cabinet in other words his Budget will have to keep Britain on course to meet the Maastricht criteria if for no more than to preserve the British option of being able to reject the whole idea.

As he draws up his package Mr Clarke may draw some amusement from the knowledge that while many (but not all) of his critics are drawn from the right of his party, Mr Prodi's opposition is the hard left Communist Refoundation. John Redwood and the CR's Fausto Bertinotti, now there is a coalition to conjure with.

## Clarke fillip as figures look bright

Tories welcome surprise £0.5bn surplus on latest balance of payments

Sarah Fyfe

**C**HANCELLOR Kenneth Clarke yesterday gained a fillip both for himself and the Government in the Tory civil war over Europe as latest figures showed the current account firmly in the black and the economy more buoyant than the authorities had estimated.

The Government welcomed the surprise £0.5 billion surplus on the balance of payments in the second quarter, and latest estimates of GDP growth brought the Chancellor a step closer to this year's 2.5 per cent target. But the unexpectedly good figures meant that the Chancellor's resistance to raising base rates from 5.75 per cent was under renewed pressure, City analysts warned.

Both Mr Clarke and Eddie George, governor of the Bank of England, would have known about the current account and GDP performances before their monthly monetary meeting on Monday, but the Chancellor appeared to have resisted Bank demands for a restraining rise in base rates yet again.

UBS economist Alex Garrard said: "With only subdued inflation left in Mr Clarke's stock of feasible excuses, further rate cuts are almost certainly off the agenda for the time being."

The Government, however, immediately seized upon the improvement in the balance of payments in the three months to June as evidence of significant recovery. Ian Lang, president of the Board of Trade, said: "The largest surplus for nine years in the United Kingdom's current account is real proof of Britain's business success. This nine-year high is a much

better picture than the market expected and one of which we can justifiably be proud." Labour, however, criticised the weakness in the trade in goods component of the current account. Most of the headline surplus was due to a record surplus of services and investment, while the manufacturing element was almost as deeply in the red as it was at the start of the year.

The one-off Euro 96 football championship was a significant boost to services income, as thousands of overseas visitors added between £100 million and £200 million to the export side of the balance sheet, a rise of 8 per cent compared to the first three months of the year.

The strong performance by

### Chancellor's resistance to raising base rates from 5.75 per cent under more pressure

trade in services and investment income is fresh evidence that Britain's non-manufacturing "invisible" sector is the motor which is driving recovery.

This was further confirmed by the most recent figures for GDP growth in the second quarter of the year. Most of the expansion in the economy, now put at 0.5 per cent, came from the services sector, which is estimated to have grown 0.4 per cent, was due to consumer spending.

Officials warned that most of the strong investment income surplus was due to spending on American aircraft. Business leaders yesterday called for government spending to be slashed by £7 billion to help bring the public finances out of the red and urged the Chancellor to avoid "irresponsible" tax cuts in his November Budget.

## Fed holds its key funds rate at 5.25 per cent

Mark Tran in New York

**T**HE Federal Reserve last night boosted President Bill Clinton and bucked pressure from the bulk of its own regional governors to restrain the overnight rate for inter-bank loans, at 5.25 per cent.

The Fed's decision was greeted by cheers on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange and the Dow immediately surged about 30 points, sending shares well into record territory. But later fell back substantially on fears that rates would rise after the presidential elections in November.

The decision came as a mild surprise to Wall Street, which had been expecting a quarter-point rise amid growing signs of wage pressure. One economist said chairman Alan Greenspan and his board must have convinced regional hawks that such pressures would abate in the coming months.

"If they're right, financial markets will rejoice. But if they're wrong, we will all be losers when they have to bring the economy to its knees," Anthony Chan, of Banc One Investment Advisors, said.

The US economy has been a politician's dream, especially for Mr Clinton, poised to win a second term because of low unemployment, steady growth and little inflationary pressure. Unemployment fell last month to 5.1 per cent, its lowest level in seven years.

Although it stood past yesterday, it is expected that the Fed will raise rates at its next meeting on November 13, just days after the election. A Reuters report, which triggered an FBI investigation, shows pressure is building on Mr Greenspan to take pre-emptive action, especially because of a tightening labour market. Eight of the 12 Fed regional bank presidents are said to favour a rise in the discount rate, the



In charge... Fed chairman Alan Greenspan, whose decision surprised Wall Street

largely symbolic rate at which the Fed lends to banks. The inflation hawks received ammunition for their view yesterday, when an International Monetary Fund official hinted at the unsustainable rate of

America's economic expansion. "Possibly, one could see some overheating already," the official said. The US unemployment rate had already fallen beyond the so-called "natural" rate, below which inflation starts to build, he said.

## Rogue trader cost UBS £500,000

Dan Atkinson

**S**ECURITIES group UBS lost nearly half a million pounds through the activities of a rogue trader who defied orders on secret dealing and hid his trades. The bank lost a further £8.9 million on legitimate deals that had been mis-recorded to hide losses.

Action by regulators against the rogue trader and one of his subordinates seems to draw the line under a number of incidents of wrongdoing at UBS in the early 1990s. It is thought that no further inquiries are under way into regulatory problems between 1992 and 1995.

American-born Mark Larkin has been expelled from the City and fined £10,000 with £4,500 costs. He worked on the UBS desk dealing in warrants and convertibles — instruments allowing the holder to take shares at some future date. Between July and October 1994 he disobeyed instructions forbidding him to increase his market positions.

Mr Larkin, who is no longer in the United Kingdom, hid his illicit trades by failing to book them at the correct time and by "warehousing" them with his French counterparty. He has also admitted failing to prevent one of his staff, James Keen, from hiding losses on legitimate positions. Mr Keen, between March and May 1994, tried to defer discovery of dealing losses by mismarking his positions.

Both men are thought to have believed they knew better than the market and that their trades would come good. Mr Keen, who no longer works for UBS, was fined £2,000, with costs of £4,500. UBS, which has admitted failing to identify the misdeeds, was fined £20,000 with a reprimand and £8,000 costs.

All fines and other penalties were announced yesterday by the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the agency that polices exchange-based businesses. UBS, owned by the Union Bank of Switzerland, is one of the largest City investment houses.

## Goldman Sachs appoints a new managing director — 70 times

It's the title that counts — or is it? DAN ATKINSON investigates

**G**OLDMAN Sachs, bulwark against unprofitability, lax fiscal policies and unsound money, may be succumbing to an equally deadly form of economic degeneration — title inflation. The Wall Street bank is expected to announce the creation of a new rank just below its much-prized partnership level — managing director.

Well, not exactly a new rank. Already, all 147-odd Goldman partners are entitled to style themselves in this way. The new, upstart managing directors — there will be as many as 70 in all — will be Goldman's equivalent of life peers, but insiders will know they aren't quite the real thing. To British observers, accustomed to a rough ratio of one managing director to one

company, the idea of a single firm boasting 217 of them seems a touch excessive. The title, however, has a different meaning on Wall Street, and anyway, Goldman already bestows vice-presidential rank on several thousand employees around the world.

It is from among these vice-presidents — also known as executive directors — that the new managing directors will be drawn. Americans generally are



reputedly fond of titles. As the gag has it, spell your own name and you're a graduate, get a job and you're a vice-president, spell someone else's name and you're a professor. But Goldman has, until now, kept its ranks to just four: associate, analyst, vice-president and partner.

Fearing, however, that the bottleneck below partner level may tempt frustrated would-be partners to defect, it has, after due consideration, brought the new grade into being, along with a new "intermediate" salary.

The chosen few will be named later this autumn, coinciding with the biennial election of an even more fortunate group, the new partners. For some of the new MDs, promotion will mean they are on the fast-track to partnership. For others, it will be a consolation prize for permanent exclusion from the very top. None will be quite sure into which category he or she fits, but Goldman hopes all will be cheered by their promotion. In other words, not inflation, but affiliation.

## Eurotunnel fears over debt deadline

Uncertainty over Eurotunnel's future was heightened last night as it became clear that the cash-strapped company is unlikely to meet next Monday's expected deadline for renegotiating nearly £9 billion of debts with its 220-strong consortium of banks, writes Patrick Donohoe.

Well-placed sources admitted that negotiations were still incomplete, even though chairman Sir Alastair Morton earlier this month said that the company was just "eight hours" away from a funding solution. Meanwhile, the mandate for Eurotunnel's two "referees", Lord Wakeham and Robert Bamber, who were appointed by the French courts to arbitrate between the company and its bankers, expires next Monday and they are not expected to serve another term. Without their intervention, prospects for an agreement look poor, say market sources.

However, the situation was further confused as other company sources said Eurotunnel had always insisted that funding would be agreed by the end of the month.

## PCT three must bid for their company

Patrick Donohoe  
City Editor

**T**HREE directors of Glasgow-based engineering company PCT were forced to launch an £11.5 million bid for their own company after being formally criticised by the Takeover Panel for breaching City regulations, it emerged yesterday.

Stuart Wilson, chairman of the USM-listed company, managing director Paul Agnew and director Lawrence Grainger were ordered to make the offer because they failed to inform the Panel that they had built up a holding of over 50 per cent.

This infringed strict takeover regulations which oblige any group of investors, or "concert party", to disclose details of any holding over 30

per cent, obliging them to make a full bid. The Takeover Panel also criticised PCT's advisors Allied Provincial Securities for its "wholly inadequate" advice during the deal.

And, in what is regarded as a highly unusual statement, the Panel raised questions about the advice given by the company's legal advisors, the City's Baker & McKenzie.

The statement follows the public announcement in August that the three directors had launched a formal bid for their own company which manufactures welding equipment and power tools. The Takeover Panel said that all three directors had made "repeated breaches" of its code, building up a combined holding of more than 50 per cent as long ago as October 1993.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 1.6075	France 7.71	Italy 2.327	Singapore 2.14
Austria 10.04	Germany 2.2825	Netherlands 0.5450	South Africa 6.01
Belgium 46.90	Finland 34.00	Portugal 2.255	Spain 192.00
Canada 2.0785	Hong Kong 11.72	New Zealand 2.1675	Sweden 10.12
Cyprus 0.9880	India 55.50	Norway 0.8050	Switzerland 1.6250
Denmark 8.8075	Ireland 0.8495	Portugal 233.50	Turkey 165.674
Finland 6.90	Israel 4.93	Saudi Arabia 3.8050	USA 1.52

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel)







# Cricket

## Counties look to new dawn

**Mike Selvey**

IN AN unexpected display of unanimity, the counties yesterday agreed proposals for the creation of an England and Wales Cricket Board. Opposition to the proposals was quelled and the 18 first-class counties, plus the MCC and Minor Counties, voted 20-0.

Last year's county champions had been expected to object to the constitution of the First Class Forum, the organisation that will represent the first-class counties. But after several hours of negotiation at a meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board, all the counties agreed on the way ahead, subject to the approval of the National Cricket Association.

"All the members voted unanimously 20-0 in favour of the creation of the ECB with effect from January 1 1997," the TCCB said. "The proposals will now be passed to the NCA for approval at their meeting on October 16."

David Morgan, chairman of the working party, was delighted with the outcome, saying it was "an historic and major step forward in uniting the whole game of cricket in this country".

The game from top to toe will be run by a 15-strong management board which in theory should be able to provide the game with all the direction it needs.

In practice, however, according to the report, "all matters of significant cricketing and financial importance to the first-class game" must be referred to the First Class Forum.

That, in effect, will be the TCCB with a new hat, and it means that, when push comes to shove, the counties will continue to hold sway over matters even if they are contrary to the interest of the national side.

A TCCB spokesman said: "The professional game has given its backing, now it is up to the recreational game to do the same."

Courtesy Walsh has agreed a new two-year contract with Gloucestershire, subject to his country's board of control which wants the 33-year-old bowler to stay in the Caribbean after this winter to help develop the domestic game.

Hampshire have signed the Australian opening batsman Matthew Hayden as their overseas player for next season on a one-year deal. The Queensland vice-captain has scored more than 7,000 runs in his first-class career at an average of 57.



Sightscreen... Darren Gough, the Yorkshire pace bowler looking forward to England's winter tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand, having his eyes tested at the squad's general fitness check yesterday

### Sport in brief

**Basketball**  
The London Towers silenced 13,000 Georgians yesterday by beating Vitya Tiblisi 87-78 in the European Cup, writes Robert Pryce. From 6-0 down the English champions took charge with a full-court press. "Diamond" Danny Lewis profited with 20 points and the 41-year-old Alan Cummings had romping away with 19 points and eight rebounds.

**Sailing**  
Britain's Chris Law is in fourth place and on course for a semi-final berth halfway through the Match Racing World Championship round-robin stage in Dubrovnik, writes Bob Fisher.

Peter Holmberg of the US Virgin Islands leads the defending champion, the American Ed Baird, each having seven wins and two defeats. Russell Courts of New Zealand is third and like Law has six wins and three defeats. Thierry Epoumont, currently last in the match-racing, won a BMW by taking yesterday's rest-day fleet race.

**Cricket**  
The leg-spinner Mushtaq Ahmed took five for 36, his best one-day international figures, to ease Pakistan to victory by

### Ice Hockey

**Czech put on Lyle's American adventure**

club was returned to the player from their parent NHL side, Hartford.

With a Russian defenceman already on their books, the Whalers found themselves with three Europeans. Lyle, who made his senior debut for Britain in last season's world championships, was the unlucky player.

Lyle's goal-tending coach and adviser Jeff Smith, a former British League goalie, said yesterday: "He's been assured he can go back next

### Cycling

**52 runs over India in the fifth and deciding Sahara Cup match in Toronto.**

The Tour of Spain leader Alex Zülle had to be helped from his bike after struggling in 42sec behind his ONCE teammate Oliverio Rincon on the uphill Ampuri fifth stage to yesterday's 98-mile 17th stage.

The Swiss's team-mate Laurent Jalabert in second and his compatriot Laurent Duforex picked up bonus time the Frenchman gaining 10sec overall. Zülle wilted in the face of Rincon's strike with three miles left as Jalabert had to cover the team position by tracking Duforex.

### Wc Batchelder

**THE** former Cardiff net-minder Stevie Lyle has returned home after his place in one of the United States' top Major Junior A sides was snatched from him because of a strict two-foreigners-per-club rule.

Lyle, 16, beat two Canadians at a pre-season training camp last month to get into the Detroit Whalers squad, only to lose out when a Czech

# Racing

## Blow for Cole as Riyadian is ruled out of Arc

**Ken Oliver**

**P**ROSPECTS of an English-trained horse winning the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe were weakened yesterday when Paul Cole ruled out Riyadian.

The Whatcombe trainer has been forced to abandon what he believed was his best ever chance of landing the contest when the colt returned from a weekend gallop "stiff and sore".

Riyadian, 12-1 for the Longchamp race a week on Sunday, had deliberately not been run since winning the Jockey Club Stakes at Newmarket in May, sidestepping the big summer event for a major crack at the Arc.

He was gradually being brought to his peak and impressed in a post-race exercise at Newbury last Saturday, but Cole said: "He is a bit stiff and sore and we're ruling out of time. It's a great shame because he is one of the few really good horses I've ever had."

"We've come all this way until Saturday when he worked very well, but he has been a bit stiff since. He just gives me bad vibes."

Henry Cecil, who has won Ascot's Fillies' Mile five times in the past dozen years, intends to run both Sleepytime and Reams of Verse in the Group One race on Sunday. The Newmarket trainer regards Sleepytime as his best two-year-old filly and she was made 8-1 second favourite behind Dazzle (4-1) for next year's 1,000 Guineas after a very easy winning debut at Sandown last week, while Reams of Verse was given a 20-1 quote for the Classic after landing the May Hill Stakes at Doncaster.

Cole's Arc disappointment was slightly tempered with his well-backed Mount Pleasant romping home at Epsom yesterday and another success could come in the shape of Kalinka at Goodwood this afternoon.

Kalinka appears to have an outstanding chance with bot-

tom weight of 7st 10lb in the Hoshizaki Cockerers Auction Stakes.

The filly, after running third to Khassab at Ascot in June, followed up with an easy three and a half lengths victory over Double Gold at Warwick.

The form has been boosted with the runner-up going on to win twice and with that good lightweight Francis Norton in the saddle, Kalinka (3.00) looks the day's best bet.

Eric Wheeler's consistent sprinter Malibu Man (4.30) is fancied to give his rivals the weight and a beating in the Friarland International Handicap.

The four-year-old was returning from a seven-week break when scoring at Chesham 13 days ago. He showed tremendous early pace to go five lengths clear at the half-way stage of that five furlong race and still had two lengths and a spare over Ashkarnax at the line.

The runner-up opposes on 5lb better terms, but Malibu Man can make his early pace tell on this downhill course and should have the upper hand again.

John Reid, who rides Malibu Man, can initiate a double on Voyagers Quest (3.30) in the St Ivel 'Gold Cup' Maiden Stakes.

Peter Chapple-Hyam's youngster made an encouraging debut at Doncaster 12 days ago when third to Cape Cross. He was running on well at the finish and that experience could give him the edge over newcomer Heritage from John Gosden's Newmarket stable.

At Chester, Calyso Grant (2.50) can make the number one spot in the Marford Maiden Stakes.

Peter Harris's filly was well supported at long odds on her debut at Salisbury but crossed swords with the highly rated Sarawak yesterday and another success could come in the shape of Kalinka at Goodwood this afternoon.

Kalinka appears to have an outstanding chance with bot-

## Goodwood runners and riders with form guide

2.30 Preakness	4.00 Overbury
2.50 KALINKA (opp)	4.30 Malibu Man
3.00 Voyagers Quest	4.40 The Blunt
	4.50 Treadwell
	5.20 Divina

Don't miss the 2.30 Preakness, 4.00 Overbury, 4.30 Malibu Man, 4.40 The Blunt, 4.50 Treadwell, 5.20 Divina.

Don't miss the 2.30 Preakness, 4.00 Overbury, 4.30 Malibu Man, 4.40 The Blunt, 4.50 Treadwell, 5.20 Divina.

## Chester

2.30 Foxglove	4.00 The Blunt
2.50 Calyso Grant (opp)	4.30 Treadwell
3.00 Preakness	4.50 Treadwell

Don't miss the 2.30 Foxglove, 2.50 Calyso Grant (opp), 3.00 Preakness, 4.00 The Blunt, 4.30 Treadwell, 4.50 Treadwell.

## Perth (N.H.)

2.10 Reuben Ruler	3.40 Rebel King
2.40 The Blunt	4.10 Treadwell
2.10 The Blunt	4.40 Treadwell

Don't miss the 2.10 Reuben Ruler, 2.40 The Blunt, 2.10 The Blunt, 3.40 Rebel King, 4.10 Treadwell, 4.40 Treadwell.

## Results

2.10 NOTTINGHAM	2.10 NOTTINGHAM
2.10 NOTTINGHAM	2.10 NOTTINGHAM
2.10 NOTTINGHAM	2.10 NOTTINGHAM

Don't miss the 2.10 NOTTINGHAM, 2.10 NOTTINGHAM, 2.10 NOTTINGHAM.

**RACELINE**

0930 168+

GOODWOOD CHESTER PERTH

101 101 201  
102 102 202  
103 103 203

**Dunlop's lire**

JOHN DUNLOP'S Passi d'Orlando, having the third run of his career, gained an easy win ridden by Giovanni Forte in yesterday's one-mile Premio Serio at San Siro, Milan.

Mark Johnston sent three horses, Atlantic Desire, Balladoole Bojan and Maid For Balleys, from his Middleham yard in Yorkshire to Epsom yesterday and the trio, with Jason Weaver riding, obliged at odds of 140-1.

**Blinkered today for the first time: CHESTER: 4.50 One For Jeannie. GOODWOOD: 2.30 Silca's My Key; 3.00 Tulsa.**

**Results**

2.30 P. KALINKA (opp) 3.00 VOYAGERS QUEST 4.00 THE BLUNT 4.30 MALIBU MAN 4.40 THE BLUNT 4.50 TREADWELL 5.20 DIVINA

**Free Offer**

17 111

Free Modem



Soccer

Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Helsingborgs IF 0, Aston Villa 0 (agg: 1-1; Helsingborg go through on away goal)

Door slammed shut on Villa

Tom Evans in Helsingborg

THE nearest Villa fans to staying in Europe last night were a long-range shot by Draper that hit the post with only seconds remaining. It rather summed up Villa's night: power and energy but ultimately inefficient art and direction.

The neat and compact Olympia Stadium had been increased in capacity to 10,000 by the addition of temporary seating but still had the feel of an English lower-division ground.

The sharp and clear Scandinavian night was ideal for football as Villa set about their make-or-break task. But the pattern of the first leg was instantly re-established as the Swedes assembled nine or more men behind the ball.

Another echo of the smooth Park tie came when a Villa link-up left Draper with a shooting chance - which he carelessly ballooned into the crowd. And although Helsingborg defended in depth, Villa's 300 travelling supporters were given little for their comfort as the Swedes often revealed neat control and managed some probing forward passes.



Snuffed-out striker... Aston Villa's Dwight Yorke is smothered by Helsingborgs' Andreas Jakobsson last night

PHOTOGRAPH: LEONART MANSSON

As half-time approached Villa's back line was beaten by a lobbed through-ball to release Mattias Jonsson. Villa would surely have been a goal down but for the quick thinking of Oakes, who marked his European debut by boldly dashing out beyond his 18-yard-line to head away. Villa would have gone down.

Chances were fleeting and when they came needed a clinical finish, but when Draper was set up for a close-range shot early in the second

half Andersson was presented with a gear-change if they were to save their embarrassment at the way the European rookies were dealing with all the Premiership high-fliers had to offer.

On the hour, with Villa crying out for fresh inspiration and direction, Paul McGrath was introduced as a substitute in place of Nelson. Little was obviously going through his options as time ticked away and the veteran Irish international took his place in the back three, enabling

Ehiogu to be pushed forward. The Swedes also made a change with Martin taking over from Powell. Villa argued for a penalty as Yorke forced a gap between defenders and the ball appeared to strike a Helsingborg hand. The referee rejected their claim though supporters interpreted his signal of a Villa spot kick for the home

free-kick that he in fact had awarded. Villa's grip on Europe was fading fast as, in some despair, Yorke shot well wide from 25 yards.

Lincoln's approach may be positively ugly but unlike City they can be effective, and ruthlessly so when pitted against defenders who would not look out of place in a pub team. After weathering an early storm, the visitors accepted the sort of gift that City are handing out every week.

Hamburg 2, Celtic 0 (agg: 4-0)

Burns heated as Celtic crash

NINE-MAN Celtic crashed out of the Uefa Cup on a night of bitterness and frustration at the Volkspark Stadium. Malky Mackay and John Hughes were sent off during a torrid first half as the Germans built on their 2-0 advantage from the first leg in Glasgow.

Celtic's agonies, they lost their top scorer Jorge Cadete early in the game when he was carried off after a clumsy foul by the Hamburg defender Stephane Renchov.

Goals from Karsten Baron and Andre Breitenreiter clinically dismissed Tommy Burns' side from the competition. Hamburg also had a man sent off this season.

After the match Burns criticised the referee. "The referee's handling of the game left a lot to be desired," he said. "I asked him at half-time if he could be fair to both sides. However, the day is fast approaching when the game will not be a full-contact sport."

Monaco win without captain

MONACO advanced to the Uefa Cup despite having only 10 men for the last 27 minutes of their second leg at home to Hutnik Krakow of Poland. Their captain Franck Dumas was sent off when he handled in the area and conceded a

penalty, from which Waldemar Adamczyk scored for the visitors. Monaco, 1-0 ahead from the first leg, won 3-1 with two goals by the Brazilian Sotny Anderson. Franck Martin scoring their other goal with a superb free-kick.

Barry Town 3, Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

Barry caught by Dodds' brace

GRAHAME LLOYD nary round Barry had made history, but they trailed 3-1 after the first leg at Pittodrie. They might have been history in the first minute as Benvendite failed to collect a chip from the halfway line.

Barry's euphoria evaporated when a through-ball caught them cold at the back and Dodds strode through to score from just inside the area.

In a balanced and pulsating tie, Barry created two chances in a minute and might have regained the lead. Lloyd's job almost caught out Walker on the far post and French narrowly missed heading home the corner.

For his 14th goal of the season. Midway through the second half Grant up-ended Bird in the box and Ryan sent Walker the wrong way with his spot kick. Seven minutes from time, Walker could not hold Barry's shot and Bird put Barry ahead again. But a minute later Rowson scored with a left-foot shot to secure a less than convincing aggregate victory for Aberdeen.

Barry could go where no League of Wales team had gone before. With wins over Dinaburg from Latvia and Budapest Vesutas in the preliminary round Barry had made history, but they trailed 3-1 after the first leg at Pittodrie.

They might have been history in the first minute as Benvendite failed to collect a chip from the halfway line. Young's shot was cleared on the six-yard line by the captain Ian Franch.

Within two minutes the League of Wales champions were ahead. A strong run by Bird took him clear down the right. Pike headed back across goal at the far post and Walker could only parry the ball to O'Gorman, who drops home from eight yards.

On the quarter-hour Barry's euphoria evaporated when a through-ball caught them cold at the back and Dodds strode through to score from just inside the area.

Team talk

The independent news and reports service

0891 33 77+

Table with 3 columns: Team, Score, Opponent. Lists various football teams and their results.

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Result

Soccer

UEFA CUP

First round, second leg

Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

Hamburg 2 Celtic 0 (agg: 4-0)

Monaco 3 Krakow 1 (agg: 3-1)

Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

Hamburg 2 Celtic 0 (agg: 4-0)

Monaco 3 Krakow 1 (agg: 3-1)

Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

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Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

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Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

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Barry Town 3 Aberdeen 3 (agg: 4-6)

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Monaco 3 Krakow 1 (agg: 3-1)

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Second Division

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Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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Rugby Union

ANGLO-WELSH CUP

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# SportsGuardian

Uefa Cup, first round, second leg: Halmstads 2, Newcastle United 1 (aggregate: 2-5)

## Swede tooth bites Newcastle

Michael Walker in Halmstad

IT WAS introduced to the travelling Georgies as the "nicest stadium in Sweden". But the fans and players of Newcastle United will take home mixed memories of Orjans Vall Park on the banks of Halmstad's River Nissan.

A stunning volley from Les Ferdinand helped make sure of Newcastle's place in Friday's draw but Halmstads were left ruing their display a fortnight ago, and their goals came too late last night to have Newcastle wobbling.

Along with a safe passage through to the next round, the avoidance of injuries was high on Newcastle's list of priorities, particularly as Beardsley and Ginola were already missing from the action.

Both had been influential in the first leg, with Ginola creating three goals and Beardsley scoring the fourth. That gave Newcastle a significant cushion but, with the knowledge that Halmstads had put three past Parma here last season, an early goal would ease any minor worries that still existed.

Halmstads' manager Tom Prahl clearly had the same concern as he dropped his keeper, Nordberg, from the St James' Park line-up. Nordberg had been at fault for two of the goals that night, while Srnicek had an almost save-free evening.

That situation was reversed immediately when the Czech goalkeeper fumbled a skidding shot from Vougt in the opening minute. Nor was the resulting corner dealt with in a completely convincing manner by the Magpies' defence.

Barton, in his first start since March, looked edgy and vulnerable, and the last thing needed from Batty was another raised fist in Europe, but his hands were high after only two minutes in a confrontation with Lennartsson. The incident ended bizarrely with the referee forcefully pushing Batty away.

After that initial nervous-

ness, though, Newcastle soon settled, with Gillespie prominent down the right and Asprilla, nominally a left-winger, revelling in a roaming role.

It was a sly pass from the Colombian in the ninth minute which created the best opportunity early on. Shearer ran on to the ball inside Arvidsson and met it sweetly but it went narrowly wide.

With Lee tackling regularly and ferociously behind the line, Newcastle had a sound platform which enabled Gillespie to attack the left-back. On most occasions Gillespie chose the outside route and he sent in a quartet of fast, dangerous crosses.

However, two minutes before half-time Gillespie cut inside for the first time and fed Ferdinand. Tommy Anderson was tight on the striker but was flummoxed by Ferdinand's magnificent swivel and volley. The ball was in the back of the net before Hakan Svensson had time to blink.

If that effectively killed the contest then no one told Halmstads. Straight after the interval Vougt had Srnicek diving once again as the physical Swedes continued to battle. Fifteen minutes later Srnicek did well to stop Vougt's shot and when Robert Anderson got to the rebound Peacock was able to block.

Newcastle had not exactly gone to sleep but the Swedes' appetite for the tie was now the sharper. Robert Anderson dragged another shot wide but a quarter of an hour from time Halmstads got the reward their commitment merited when Arvidsson beat Peacock to a ricochet and forced the ball in from a yard.

Five minutes later and Halmstads were ahead, Magnus Svensson beating Clark to the rebound after Srnicek had parried from Vougt.

Halmstads: H Svensson, Jonsson, Y Anderson, Smith, Arvidsson, M Svensson, Lindberg, Beldrove, Edvin, R Anderson, F Anderson, Vougt, Lennartsson (Karlsson, 87). Newcastle United: Srnicek, Barton, Peacock, Albert, Beresford, Gillespie, Batty (Clark, 70), Lee, Asprilla (Kimon, 78), Shearer, Ferdinand.

Referee: S Piller (Hungary).



Sharp practice... Les Ferdinand volleys home Newcastle's goal in Sweden last night

PHOTOGRAPH: RAOUF DIXON

## Quick, make way for the dying spider



Jim White

YOU may come away cursing the crossbar, fuming at the referee, even reckoning it would have been better to spend the afternoon constructing that set of Ikea bunk-beds after all, but there is one big advantage about watching a 0-0 draw these days: you are spared the contrived goal celebrations.

At Villa Park on Saturday there were no goals, but also there were none of the following: a duck walk, a conga or a squadron of circling aircraft. There were no Groucho Marx waddles, no formation reclining Romans or any kind of sexual congress involving corner flags. No one pulled his shirt over his head to reveal his six-pack stomach, no one lay, legs akimbo, on the turf to be sprayed with Lucozade, and, most refreshing of all, no one stood presiding in a tired Chris Eubank pastiche.

Maybe that is why no one scored: the split second of indecision over whether a strike should be marked with a cartwheel or a somersault, a solo pelt or a human pyramid, a samba or a foxtrot resulted in forwards hitting, instead of the back of the net, the woodwork, the goalkeeper and on one occasion Row W of the Holte End stand.

Working out at training what to do when you score a goal now appears to take up more energy than working out how to score in the first place. So organised is it all, clubs appear to be employing choreographers to sharpen up their post-goal act.

Maybe that is why Francis Lee can't find anyone for Manchester City: no manager worth his salt will take over a place where there's just not enough money for a specialist celebrations coach.

It is instructive to see the effect all this is having on the junior end of football. At the park at the bottom of our road last Sunday morning a couple of under-11 teams locked horns in the local mini-league. It wasn't particularly elevated or important, just kids enjoying themselves on the pitch and dads getting apologetic on the sidelines. But when one of the teams opened the scoring after an unedifying scramble

In the second minute, it precipitated a frenzy of activity.

The boy who had applied the final touch pelted half the length of the pitch, arms outstretched, palms upwards, like the Pope conducting mass on the run. He was pursued by half a dozen of his team-mates, several of whom had pulled their shirts over their heads. On reaching the centre circle the boy dived full length across the turf, to be surrounded by the posse also diving, one after the other, alongside him.

Meanwhile the goalkeeper and the one boy with the discipline to stay back in defence lay down in their own goal-mouth, kicking their legs in the air doing the dying spider. A similar procedure was seen after each of the 13 goals in the next half-hour, regardless of the quality of the strike.

Kids today: they have so much more fun than we did, when the celebration choice was limited to the Denis Law (cut) pulled over the knuckles, serious expression on the face, right arm raised) or the Allan Clarke (cut) pulled over the knuckles, serious expression on the face, left arm raised).

Nowadays they don't even need goals to start some vigorous public bonding. During Sunday's match the winning of a corner was marked with high-fives all round. And when a penalty was awarded after a frankly, looked the most theatrical of dives, marriages appeared to be arranged. Indeed, so wholesale was their aping of the adult game, it came as a surprise on the final whistle that their manager didn't run on to the pitch and send them all over to applaud their parents lining the touchline.

THE blame for this arms-race style escalation of goal observance lies with Nick Hancock's 'They Think It's All Over'. The round in the quiz in which panellists have to offer an explanation as to why certain players did certain things to mark certain goals (and in the case of the Nigeria team in the 1994 World Cup, to mark the corner flags too) has become an invitation to exhibitionists everywhere.

It can be only a matter of time before the player explaining on film why the team behaved as they did sheepishly admits it was because, since they were just a bunch of part-timers from the John Smith's Bitter Central Midlands League, they knew it was the only way they would ever appear on the nation's favourite show. Either that or they got the idea watching the kids down the local park.

## Everton the victims as York repeat their giant-killing act

EVERTON, struggling near the bottom of the Premiership, were sent packing from the Coca-Cola Cup last night when they were beaten 3-2 by York City at Bootham Crescent, having drawn the first leg 1-1.

Paul Rideout gave Everton the lead in the 24th minute but York, conquerors of Manchester United in last season's competition, equalised nine minutes later. Bull scored the

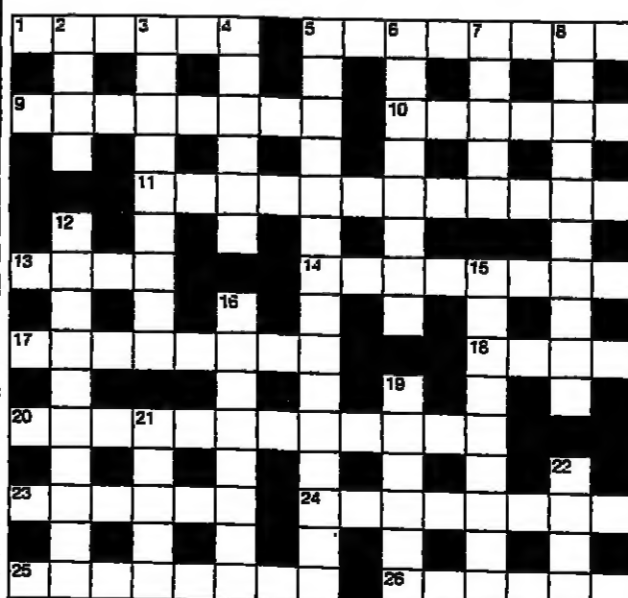
second in the 57th minute and Graeme Murty finished off the job four minutes from the end.

Manchester City's fortunes sank to further depths as the First Division side, still unable to attract a manager and struggling to keep their heads above water in the league, were bundled out at Maine Road, beaten 1-0 and 5-1 on aggregate by Lincoln City of the Third Division.

Match reports, page 14

## Guardian Crossword No 20,767

Set by Chifonie

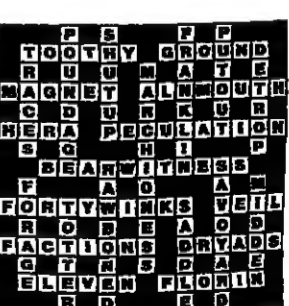


### Across

- 1 Stalk, kept to be eaten by animal (6)
- 5 Nice, open, exotic seed bearer (4,4)
- 9 Plant a representative in the county (8)
- 10 Timid person consumes small dessert (6)
- 11 Entwines sea monster's hair or makes furniture (7,5)
- 13 Throw out an item, having moved it to the end (4)
- 14 Old woman is wearing cosmetic? That's hard to digest! (8)
- 17 Comedians put out of beat in cleansing fluids (8)
- 18 Girl's in love in a short time (4)
- 20 Pigment from capital Scottish island put into food (6,6)

### Down

- 2 There's excitement when trickster loses his head (4)
- 3 Light control device ducks hag (3-6)
- 4 A beastly noise from beast of burden under last straw (9)
- 5 Request reliable cooking utensil in tourist ship (8,7)
- 6 Many fancy our menus (8)
- 7 Caught an anguished word or phrase (5)
- 8 Gibson next designed an incubator (7,3)
- 12 It makes one sick, in a way, being understanding (10)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,766

- 15 Restaurant supervisor loses ultimate spaghetti source (9)
- 16 The Queen, in undamaged surroundings, is to socialise (8)
- 18 Look into crash in obstacle race (6)
- 21 Big-time Native American (5)
- 22 A love of indigo (4)

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Society  
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Inside

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